



## 2013 ASSEMBLY BILL 137

April 4, 2013 – Introduced by Representatives JACQUE, BROOKS, CZAJA, KLEEFISCH, MURPHY and RIPP, cosponsored by Senators LEIBHAM, L. TAYLOR, TIFFANY and VINEHOUT. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources and Sporting Heritage.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 29.001 (30) and 29.001 (36); and **to create** 29.192 (6) of the  
2 statutes; **relating to:** requiring an open season for woodchucks.

---

### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) currently, by rule, prohibits hunting and trapping woodchucks without DNR's authorization by designating the woodchuck as a "protected wild animal."

Under this bill, a woodchuck is defined as a "game animal" and as a "fur-bearing animal." As a result, a person may hunt woodchucks under the authority of a small game hunting license and trap woodchucks under a trapping license. Also under this bill, DNR is required to establish an open season for woodchucks that begins on March 1 of each year and ends on the following December 31. DNR may not impose a bag or possession limit for this season.

---

***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***

3 **SECTION 1.** 29.001 (30) of the statutes is amended to read:  
4 29.001 (30) "Fur-bearing ~~animals~~ animal" includes otter, beaver, mink,  
5 muskrat, woodchuck, marten, fisher, skunk, raccoon, fox, weasel, opossum, badger,  
6 wolf, coyote, bobcat, cougar, and lynx.

