



State of Wisconsin
2021 - 2022 LEGISLATURE

LRB-1483/1
ZDW:skw

2021 SENATE BILL 54

January 28, 2021 - Introduced by Senators STAFSHOLT, PETROWSKI, COWLES and FELZKOWSKI, cosponsored by Representatives CALLAHAN, MAGNAFICI, HORLACHER, ROZAR, EDMING, SPIROS, TITTL, KURTZ, VANDERMEER and SKOWRONSKI. Referred to Committee on Sporting Heritage, Small Business and Rural Issues.

1 **AN ACT to renumber** 29.311; and **to create** 29.311 (2) of the statutes; **relating**
2 **to:** shot shell restrictions and the hunting of fur-bearing animals.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill prohibits the Department of Natural Resources from limiting the use of shot shells based on shot size for the hunting of fur-bearing animals, which current law defines to include otter, beaver, mink, muskrat, woodchuck, marten, fisher, skunk, raccoon, fox, weasel, opossum, badger, wolf, coyote, bobcat, cougar, and lynx.

Under current law, DNR is required to regulate the hunting, fishing, and trapping of wild animals. In general, a person may hunt, fish, or trap a wild animal only during the open season for that animal and only with the appropriate approval issued by DNR. However, current law provides that a landowner or occupant may hunt or trap beaver, coyotes, foxes, raccoons, woodchucks, rabbits, and squirrels (commonly referred to as nuisance wildlife) on the land at any time and without a DNR approval.

Under current rules promulgated by DNR, no person while hunting may use, possess, or have under the person's control shot shells containing shot larger than T. Under the bill, DNR may not limit the use, possession, or control of shot shells on the basis of the size of the contained shot for the hunting of a fur-bearing animal

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during an open season established for that animal by the department or for the hunting of nuisance wildlife as provided under current law.

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

1 **SECTION 1.** 29.311 of the statutes is renumbered 29.311 (1).

2 **SECTION 2.** 29.311 (2) of the statutes is created to read:

3 29.311 (2) The department may not limit the use, possession, or control of shot
4 shells on the basis of the size of the contained shot for the hunting of a fur-bearing
5 animal during an open season established for that animal by the department or for
6 the hunting of an animal as provided under s. 29.337 (1).

7 **(END)**