

1999 ASSEMBLY BILL 304

April 22, 1999 – Introduced by Representatives PETROWSKI, SUDER, GUNDRUM, GRONEMUS, SYKORA, HUNDERTMARK, ALBERS, BRANDEMUEHL, FREESE, GOETSCH, GUNDERSON, LADWIG, MUSSER, PETTIS, PLOUFF, SERATTI and SPILLNER, cosponsored by Senator FITZGERALD. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

1 **AN ACT to create** 29.312 of the statutes; **relating to:** restrictions on firearm
2 possession during the 24-hour period before the opening of deer hunting
3 season.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current department of natural resources rules generally prohibit a person, during the 24-hour period prior to the opening of the season for hunting deer with guns, from possessing a gun in a place where there is an open season for hunting deer with guns unless the gun is unloaded and enclosed within a carrying case. The rules also contain certain exceptions to this prohibition, including exceptions for persons engaged in target shooting and for persons who hunt on licensed game farms. This bill adds an additional exception to the general prohibition for a person who sights a firearm on land owned or leased by that person or a member of that person's immediate family.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** 29.312 of the statutes is created to read:

ASSEMBLY BILL 304**SECTION 1**

1 **29.312 Possession of firearms before the opening of deer hunting**
2 **season. (1)** In this section, “immediate family” means persons who are related as
3 spouses, as siblings or as parent and child.

4 **(2)** (a) Except as provided in par. (b), no person may, during the period of 24
5 hours before the time of commencement of deer hunting season, possess a firearm
6 of the type used for hunting, as specified by the department by rule, in any place
7 where there is an open season for hunting deer with firearms, unless the firearm is
8 unloaded and enclosed within a carrying case.

9 (b) Paragraph (a) does not apply to any of the following:

10 1. A person who is engaged in target shooting at a target shooting range that
11 is open to the public.

12 2. A person who is hunting on a pheasant and quail farm that is licensed under
13 s. 29.865.

14 3. A person who is hunting on a game bird and animal farm that is licensed
15 under s. 29.867.

16 4. A person who is hunting on a fur animal farm that is licensed under s. 29.869.

17 5. A person who is hunting on a deer farm that is licensed under s. 29.871.

18 6. A person who is hunting waterfowl during the open season for hunting
19 waterfowl.

20 7. A person who is sighting a firearm on land owned or leased by that person,
21 or a member of that person's immediate family.

22 **(END)**