Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules

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• CR 00-154

Report to the Legislature Clearinghouse Rule CR 00-154

The Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules

Produced pursuant to s. 227.19(6), Stats.

Clearinghouse Rule 00-154, submitted by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), is a proposed rule that relates to deer hunting and the wildlife damage abatement and claims program.

Description of the Problem

On November 7, 2001 the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources met in executive session and voted 12-0 to object in part to CR 00-154. The Assembly committee objected to a portion of the rule, proposed s. NR 10.106 (2) (a) in SECTION 14 of Clearinghouse Rule 00-154. The objected to portion of the rule requires certain deer (bucks) to be registered in the unit of kill or the adjacent unit of kill. As a result of the partial objection, a hunter, as under current law, would be allowed to register a buck within the zone, as opposed to the unit, in which the buck was killed.

JCRAR was required to concur or non-concur in the standing committee's objection.

Arguments in Favor of Objection

• A hunter is unfairly burdened by having to register a buck in the unit of kill or the adjacent unit of kill rather than in most of the state. If a buck is killed near the

time when a registration location closes, the hunter would have to remain in the unit or adjacent unit until the next day.

• It is more convenient for a hunter to have flexibility in deciding where to register a buck.

Argument Against Objection

 Because of the several different regulations for registering deer depending on the season, including the sex of the deer, the weapon, and whether a special herd reduction is in place, DNR contended that a rule requiring the same registration specifications under any circumstances would be the least confusing to the hunting public.

Action by Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules

The committee held a public hearing and executive session on January 10, 2002 and concurred in the standing committee's objection. After the committee's action, the language that remains in s. NR 10.106(2)(a) is: "Gun license deer shall be registered within the zone in which the deer was killed no later than 5:00 pm of the first day following the season's close. Deer may be transported outside the unit in which it was killed until it is registered." The bill restores current law by providing that a buck can be registered in most of the state.

On February 6, 2002 the Joint Committee voted 10-0 to introduce the bill in both houses of the legislature.