2001 ASSEMBLY BILL 251

March 26, 2001 – Introduced by Representatives Kaufert, Ott, Wade, Meyerhofer, Petrowski, Vrakas, Gunderson, Owens and Ward, cosponsored by Senators Burke, Roessler, Ellis and Shibilski. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

- 1 AN ACT *to amend* 29.569 (3) (b); and *to create* 29.569 (3) (bm) of the statutes;
- 2 **relating to:** the period of time during which sturgeon spearing licenses may
- 3 not be issued.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a sturgeon spearing license may not be issued during the open season for spearing rock or lake sturgeon (nonissuance period). The open season is currently set by rule promulgated by the department of natural resources to begin on the second Saturday in February and to continue for 16 consecutive days.

This bill changes this nonissuance period so that it begins on the October 1 preceding the open season and ends on the last day of the season. The bill also excepts two groups of persons from this prohibition on being issued licenses during this period. Residents who turn 14 years old during the nonissuance period may be issued a license during that period. Also, residents who are in the armed forces outside this state and who are on furlough or leave may be issued a license during the nonissuance period.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

ASSEMBLY BILL 251

SECTION 1. 29.569 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:
29.569 (3) (b) Restrictions on issuance of sturgeon spearing licenses during the
open season. No Except as provided in par. (bm), no sturgeon spearing license may
be issued during a period beginning on October 1 and ending on the last day of the
open season for the spearing of rock or lake sturgeon <u>that follows that October 1</u> .
SECTION 2. 29.569 (3) (bm) of the statutes is created to read:
29.569 (3) (bm) Exceptions. A sturgeon spearing license may be issued during
a period beginning on October 1 and ending on the last day of the open season for the
spearing of rock or lake sturgeon that follows that October 1 to any of the following:
1. A person who is a member of the U.S. armed forces and who exhibits proof
that he or she is a resident, is in active service with the armed forces outside this
state, and is on furlough or leave.
2. A person who is a resident and who has attained the age of 14 during that
period.
SECTION 3. Effective date.
(1) This act takes effect on the September 1 after publication.

(END)