2003 ASSEMBLY BILL 200

March 25, 2003 – Introduced by Representatives Petrowski, Loeffelholz, Musser, Pettis, M. Lehman, Gunderson, Ward, Suder, Seratti, Gundrum, Kestell, Hahn, Underheim, Ott, Bies, Ladwig, Olsen, Stone, Grothman, J. Fitzgerald, Freese, Hines, Albers, Townsend, Hundertmark, Jeskewitz and F. Lasee, cosponsored by Senators Kedzie, S. Fitzgerald, Zien, A. Lasee and Lazich. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

AN ACT *to create* 29.312 of the statutes; **relating to:** restrictions on promulgating or enforcing certain rules regulating the sighting of a firearm.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current Department of Natural Resources (DNR) 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 prohibits DNR from promulgating or enforcing a rule that prohibits a person from sighting a firearm on land owned or leased by that person or a member of that person's immediate family during that same 24–hour period in any area where there is an open season for hunting deer with firearms.

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

- **Section 1.** 29.312 of the statutes is created to read:
- 4 **29.312 Rules regulating the sighting of a firearm. (1)** In this section,
- 5 "immediate family" means persons who are related as spouses, as siblings, or as
- 6 parent and child.

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(2) The department may not promulgate or enforce a rule that prohibits a person from sighting a firearm on land owned or leased by that person or a member of that person's immediate family during the 24-hour period prior to the opening date for hunting deer with firearms in any area where there is an open season for hunting deer with firearms.

6 (END)