

2007 ASSEMBLY BILL 96

February 22, 2007 – Introduced by Representatives SCHNEIDER, PETROWSKI, MURSAU, HAHN, BENEDICT, TURNER, VAN ROY, A. OTT, KLEEFISCH, SHERIDAN, HILGENBERG, J. OTT and SINICKI, cosponsored by Senators LASSA, RISSER, WIRCH, PLALE and SCHULTZ. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

- 1 **AN ACT** *to create* 23.225 of the statutes; **relating to:** the possession, release,
2 control, storage, sale, and transportation of fish of an invasive fish species and
3 requiring the exercise of rule-making authority.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill prohibits any person, with certain exceptions, from possessing, releasing, controlling, storing, selling, or transporting fish, or viable fish eggs, of an invasive fish species if the person knows, or should know, that the fish or eggs are of an invasive fish species. The bill defines “invasive fish species” as a species of fish that is not native to the waters of this state and that causes, or is likely to cause, harm to the economy, to the environment, or to human health. Under the bill, the prohibitions do not apply to certain persons, such as those who hold a permit from the Department of Natural Resources to import or stock fish or those who operate a fish farm regulated by the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. The prohibitions also do not apply under the bill to a person who, while lawfully fishing, inadvertently catches a fish that is of an invasive fish species.

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:

