

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2009 Assembly Bill 371	Assembly Substitute Amendment 1, as Amended by the Assembly; Senate Amendment 1
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Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 makes the following changes to a Class B bear license:

- Authorizes a Class B bear license holder to pursue a bear provided the Class B license holder does not shoot, shoot at, capture, take, or kill the bear unless authorized as provided in the substitute amendment.
- Provides that a Class B bear license holder may shoot and kill a bear that was shot and wounded, but not killed, by a Class A bear license holder in the same hunting party if all of the following apply: the Class B license holder is at least 16 years old and has taken hunter's safety or was born before January 1, 1973; the Class A license holder has a carcass tag authorized for use on the bear; and the Class A license holder authorizes the Class B license holder to shoot and kill the bear.
- Requires the Department of Natural Resources to allow a Class B bear license holder to train a dog to track, trail, and locate bear during an open season in which DNR allows a Class A bear license holder to hunt bear with the use of a dog.
- Allows a person who is under age 16 to engage in activities authorized under a Class B bear license without holding the license.
- Creates a new provision which authorizes a person to engage in activities authorized by a Class B bear license without holding the license during the third Saturday in August and the immediately following Sunday.

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- Provides that a person who accompanies and assists a disabled person who holds either a Class A or a Class B bear license may engage in all of the activities authorized under a Class B bear license without holding the license.
- Specifies that a Class B bear license holder who kills a bear under the circumstances provided in the substitute amendment must ensure that the person for whom the bear was killed attaches a current validated carcass tag.
- Eliminates the requirement that a Class B bear license holder attach a back tag.

Assembly Amendment 1 restores the current law requirement that a Class B bear license holder must attach a back tag.

Senate Amendment 1 would only apply the requirement that the DNR allow dog training during the open bear hunting season during the 2011 and 2012 bear seasons. The amendment would also extend the current 35-day bear hunting season, to begin two days earlier, and would allow hunting of bear without the aid of a dog for those two days, and sunsets this season extension after the 2012 hunting season.

Legislative History

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 was offered by Representative Hraychuck on November 2, 2009. On December 17, 2009, the Assembly Committee on Fish and Wildlife recommended adoption of Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 by a vote of Ayes, 9; Noes, 1 and recommended passage of the bill, as amended, by a vote of Ayes, 8; Noes, 2.

Assembly Amendment 1 was offered by Representative Hraychuck on January 28, 2010. On the same date, the Assembly adopted Assembly Amendment 1 to Assembly Substitute Amendment 1, adopted Assembly Substitute Amendment 1, as amended, and passed Assembly Bill 371, as amended, all on voice votes.

Senate Amendment 1 was offered by the Senate Committee on Transportation, Tourism, Forestry, and Natural Resources on April 1, 2010. The committee recommended adoption of the amendment by a vote of Ayes, 7; Noes, 0, and concurrence in Assembly Bill 371, as amended, by a vote of Ayes, 6; Noes, 1.

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