

State of Wisconsin



September 2011 Special Session
Senate Bill 22

Date of enactment: **December 7, 2011**
Date of publication*: **December 20, 2011**

2011 WISCONSIN ACT 93

AN ACT to amend 895.52 (7); and to create 895.529 of the statutes; relating to: the duty of care owed to trespassers.

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

SECTION 1. 895.52 (7) of the statutes is amended to read:

895.52 (7) NO DUTY OR LIABILITY CREATED. Except as expressly provided in this section, nothing in this section or s. 101.11, or s. 895.529 nor the common law attractive nuisance doctrine creates any duty of care or ground of liability toward any person who uses another's property for a recreational activity.

SECTION 2. 895.529 of the statutes is created to read:

895.529 Civil liability limitation; duty of care owed to trespassers. (1) In this section:

(a) "Possessor of real property" means an owner, lessee, tenant, or other lawful occupant of real property.

(b) "Trespasser" means a natural person who enters or remains upon property in possession of another without express or implied consent.

(2) Except as provided in sub. (3), a possessor of real property owes no duty of care to a trespasser.

(3) A possessor of real property may be liable for injury or death to a trespasser under the following circumstances:

(a) The possessor of real property willfully, wantonly, or recklessly caused the injury or death. This paragraph does not apply if the possessor used reasonable and necessary force for the purpose of self-defense or the defense of others under s. 939.48 or used reasonable and

necessary force for the protection of property under s. 939.49.

(b) The person injured or killed was a child and all of the following apply:

1. The possessor of real property maintained, or allowed to exist, an artificial condition on the property that was inherently dangerous to children.

2. The possessor of real property knew or should have known that children trespassed on the property.

3. The possessor of real property knew or should have known that the artificial condition he or she maintained or allowed to exist was inherently dangerous to children and involved an unreasonable risk of serious bodily harm or death to children.

4. The injured or killed child, because of his or her youth or tender age, did not discover the condition or realize the risk involved in entering onto the property, or in playing in close proximity to the inherently dangerous artificial condition.

5. The possessor of real property could have reasonably provided safeguards that would have obviated the inherent danger without interfering with the purpose for which the artificial condition was maintained or allowed to exist.

(4) This section does not create or increase any liability on the part of a possessor of real property for circumstances not specified under this section and does not affect any immunity from or defenses to liability avail-

* Section 991.11, WISCONSIN STATUTES 2009-10: Effective date of acts. "Every act and every portion of an act enacted by the legislature over the governor's partial veto which does not expressly prescribe the time when it takes effect shall take effect on the day after its date of publication as designated" by the secretary of state [the date of publication may not be more than 10 working days after the date of enactment].

able to a possessor of real property under common law or another statute.

(1) This act first applies to actions that are filed on the effective date of this subsection.

SECTION 3. Initial applicability.

