DRAFTER'S NOTE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

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September 16, 2011

This bill allows a person to fish for rough fish with a crossbow in the same manner as a person may fish with a bow and arrow under s. 29.405. There are two other statutes in current law that refer to the use of a bow and arrow for fishing. Under the general law that prohibits shining of wild animals, there is an exception under s. 29.314 (4) (b) 3., stats., for a person who possesses or uses a light while using a bow and arrow for taking rough fish. Do you want this exception to also apply to a person who possesses or uses a light while fishing with a crossbow?

Also, current law generally prohibits a person from shooting a bolt or an arrow from a bow or crossbow within 50 feet of the center of a roadway, but the prohibition does not apply to a person who is fishing with a bow and arrow if the person does not shoot the arrow from the roadway or across a highway. See s. 167.31 (4) (g), stats. Should this exception also apply to a person fishing with a crossbow?

If you would like to extend either of these exceptions so that they also apply to a person who is fishing with a crossbow, please let me know and I will redraft accordingly.

Robin N. Kite Senior Legislative Attorney Phone: (608) 266–7291

E-mail: robin.kite@legis.wisconsin.gov