

# State of Wisconsin



2011 Assembly Bill 384

Date of enactment: April 6, 2012  
Date of publication\*: April 19, 2012

## 2011 WISCONSIN ACT 252

AN ACT *to amend* 29.161 (2), 29.164 (2) (b), 29.171 (4) (b) (intro.), 29.173 (2) (a), 29.173 (2) (b) (intro.), 29.182 (3) (a), 29.182 (3) (b), 29.184 (3) (c), 29.193 (2) (cr) 1., 29.193 (2) (cr) 2., 29.204 (2), 29.207 (2), 29.211 (2), 29.213 (2) and 29.304 (1) (a); and *to create* 29.001 (17), 29.001 (19m) and 29.014 (1m) of the statutes; **relating to:** weapons that may be used to hunt certain animals and requirements for establishing open hunting seasons for those animals.

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

**SECTION 1.** 29.001 (17) of the statutes is created to read:

29.001 (17) "Bow," when used with reference to hunting, means a bow, drawn and held by and through the effort of the person releasing it, but does not include a crossbow.

**SECTION 2.** 29.001 (19m) of the statutes is created to read:

29.001 (19m) "Crossbow" means any device using a bow that, once drawn, is held solely by means other than the effort of the person firing it.

**SECTION 3.** 29.014 (1m) of the statutes is created to read:

29.014 (1m) (a) If the department establishes an open season for hunting deer, elk, small game, wild turkey, or bear with a firearm, the season shall also be open for hunting that animal with a crossbow and a bow and arrow.

(b) If the department establishes an open season for hunting deer, elk, small game, wild turkey, or bear with a bow and arrow but not with a firearm, the department may not open that season for hunting with a crossbow except by a person who has attained the age of 65 or by

a person who is authorized to hunt with a crossbow by a permit issued under s. 29.171 (4) (a) or 29.193 (2).

**SECTION 4.** 29.161 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

29.161 (2) A resident small game hunting license authorizes hunting with a firearm, airgun, or bow and arrow, or with a crossbow if the holder of the license has a Class A, Class B, or Class C permit issued under s. 29.193 (2) that authorizes hunting with a crossbow, has a crossbow permit issued under s. 29.171 (4) (a), or has attained the age of 65 years.

**SECTION 5.** 29.164 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

29.164 (2) (b) *Type of hunting authorized.* A license issued under this section authorizes hunting with a firearm or bow and arrow, or with a crossbow if the holder of the license has a Class A, Class B, or Class C permit issued under s. 29.193 (2) that authorizes hunting with a crossbow or has a crossbow permit issued under s. 29.171 (4) (a), or has attained the age of 65 years.

**SECTION 5m.** 29.171 (4) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

29.171 (4) (b) (intro.) Except as provided in par. (bc), crossbows used no person may use a crossbow in hunting as authorized by ~~a Class A, Class B or Class C~~ any

\* 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].

~~license or permit issued under s. 29.193 (2) or under this subsection or as authorized under sub. (2m) or s. 29.161 (2), 29.164 (2) (b), 29.182 (3) (a), 29.184 (3) (e), 29.204 (2), 29.207 (2), 29.213 (2), or 29.216 (2) shall meet chapter unless the crossbow meets~~ all of the following specifications:

**SECTION 6.** 29.173 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

29.173 (2) (a) A resident deer hunting license authorizes the hunting of deer with ~~firearms only~~ a firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow.

**SECTION 7.** 29.173 (2) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

29.173 (2) (b) (intro.) A qualified service member holding a current resident deer hunting license may hunt deer of either sex ~~with a firearm~~ during any season open to hunting of deer with firearms that is established by the department. For purposes of this paragraph, a qualified service member is a member of the armed forces who exhibits proof that he or she is in active service with the armed forces outside this state and proof of one of the following:

**SECTION 8.** 29.182 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

29.182 (3) (a) A resident elk hunting license authorizes a resident of this state to hunt elk with a firearm ~~or~~ bow and arrow, or ~~with a~~ crossbow, ~~if the resident has a Class A, Class B, or Class C permit issued under s. 29.193 (2) that authorizes hunting with a crossbow, or if the resident has a crossbow permit issued under s. 29.171 (4) (a).~~

**SECTION 9.** 29.182 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

29.182 (3) (b) A nonresident elk hunting license authorizes a nonresident of this state to hunt elk with a firearm ~~or with a~~ bow and arrow, ~~or crossbow.~~

**SECTION 10.** 29.184 (3) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

29.184 (3) (c) *Type of hunting authorized.* A Class A bear license authorizes hunting with a firearm ~~or~~ bow and arrow, or ~~with a~~ crossbow ~~if the holder of the license has a Class A, Class B, or Class C permit issued under s. 29.193 (2) that authorizes hunting with a crossbow or has attained the age of 65 years.~~

**SECTION 11.** 29.193 (2) (cr) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

29.193 (2) (cr) 1. A person holding a current resident or nonresident deer hunting license and a Class A or Class

C permit may hunt deer of either sex ~~with a firearm~~ during any season open to hunting of deer with firearms that is established by the department.

**SECTION 12.** 29.193 (2) (cr) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

29.193 (2) (cr) 2. A Class A permit authorizes the holder to shoot or hunt from a stationary vehicle, to fish or troll as authorized under sub. (1m) (b) and to hunt certain game with a crossbow as authorized under ss. ~~29.161 (2), 29.164 (2) (b), 29.171 (2), 29.182 (3) (a), 29.184 (3) (e), 29.204 (2), 29.207 (2), 29.213 (2), and 29.216 (2).~~

**SECTION 13.** 29.204 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

29.204 (2) A nonresident annual small game hunting license authorizes hunting with a firearm, airgun, ~~or~~ bow and arrow, or ~~with a~~ crossbow ~~if the holder of the license has a Class A, Class B, or Class C permit issued under s. 29.193 (2) that authorizes hunting with a crossbow or has attained the age of 65 years.~~

**SECTION 14.** 29.207 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

29.207 (2) A nonresident 5-day small game hunting license authorizes hunting with a firearm, airgun, ~~or~~ bow and arrow, or ~~with a~~ crossbow ~~if the holder of the license has a Class A, Class B, or Class C permit issued under s. 29.193 (2) that authorizes hunting with a crossbow or has attained the age of 65 years.~~

**SECTION 15.** 29.211 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

29.211 (2) AUTHORIZATION. A nonresident deer hunting license authorizes the hunting of deer with ~~firearms only~~ a firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow.

**SECTION 16.** 29.213 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

29.213 (2) A nonresident fur-bearing animal hunting license authorizes hunting with a firearm, airgun, ~~or~~ bow and arrow, or ~~with a~~ crossbow ~~if the holder of the license has a Class A, Class B, or Class C permit issued under s. 29.193 (2) that authorizes hunting with a crossbow or has attained the age of 65 years.~~

**SECTION 17m.** 29.304 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

29.304 (1) (a) *Prohibition on hunting.* No person under 12 years of age may hunt with a firearm ~~or~~ bow and arrow, or crossbow.