



2011 ASSEMBLY BILL 82

April 7, 2011 – Introduced by Representatives VRUWINK, SPANBAUER, TURNER and RIPP, cosponsored by Senators LASSA, SCHULTZ, KEDZIE and TAYLOR. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

- 1 **AN ACT** *to create* 29.889 (1) (g) and 29.889 (7m) (at) of the statutes; **relating to:**
2 wildlife damage abatement assistance and claim payments for damage caused
3 by cougar.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law authorizes a person who owns, leases, or controls land on which certain wild animals cause damage to crops or livestock (wildlife damage) to apply to the county for wildlife damage claim payments and for wildlife damage abatement assistance (wildlife damage payments). With certain exceptions, the person may receive wildlife damage payments only if the person opens the land for hunting the type of animal that caused the wildlife damage. Wildlife damage for which a person is eligible to receive wildlife damage payments includes wildlife damage caused by deer, bear, and geese.

This bill adds wildlife damage caused by cougar to the type of damage for which a person is eligible to receive wildlife damage payments. The bill also exempts that person from the requirement that the land be open for the hunting of cougar in order to be eligible to receive wildlife damage payments.

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:

