



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2011 Assembly Bill 24

Assembly Amendments 1 and 4

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Assembly Bill 24 makes the following changes to a Class B bear license:

- Authorizes a Class B 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 bill.
- Provides that a Class B license holder may shoot and kill a bear that was shot, but not killed, by a Class A bear license holder in the same hunting party if the Class A license holder has a current, unused carcass tag authorized for use on the bear; and if killing the bear is necessary to protect the safety of other members of the hunting party or the public. This section is also referred to as the “backup shooter” provision.
- Requires the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to allow a Class B license holder to train a dog to track, trail, and locate bear during an open season that allows a Class A license holder to hunt bear with the use of a dog.
- Allows a person who is under age 16 to engage in the activities authorized under a Class B license without holding the license.
- Creates a new provision which authorizes a person to engage in activities authorized by a Class B license without holding the license during the third Saturday in August and the immediately following Sunday.
- Specifies that a Class B license holder who kills a bear under the circumstances provided in the bill must ensure that the person for whom the bear was killed attaches a current validated carcass tag.

- Eliminates the requirement that the DNR issue a back tag with a Class B bear license.
- Eliminates the requirement that a Class A or Class B license holder display a back tag.

Assembly Amendment 1

Assembly Amendment 1 modifies the “backup shooter” provision in the bill to specify that a Class B license holder may shoot and kill a bear that was shot, but not killed, by a Class A bear license holder if the Class B license holder was hunting in the same hunting party as the Class A license holder at the point of kill, if the Class A license holder possesses a current, unused carcass tag authorized for use on the bear; and if killing the bear is necessary to protect the safety of other members of the hunting party or the public.

Assembly Amendment 4

Assembly Amendment 4 restores the requirement that a Class A license holder display a back tag when hunting bear.

Legislative History

Assembly Amendment 1 was offered by Representative Severson. On April 6, 2011, the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources recommended adoption of the amendment on a vote of Ayes, 15; Noes, 0.

Assembly Amendment 4 was offered by Representative Severson. On April 6, 2011, the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources recommended adoption of the amendment on a vote of Ayes, 15; Noes, 0.

On April 6, 2011, the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources recommended passage of Assembly Bill 24, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 12; Noes, 3.

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