AN ACT to repeal 29.171 (2m), 29.171 (4) (a), 29.171 (4) (c) and 29.216 (2m); to
renumber and amend 29.171 (3), 29.193 (1m) (a), 29.193 (2) (cr) 2. and 29.216
(3); to amend 29.014 (1m) (b), 29.024 (9), 29.171 (2), 29.185 (2) (b), 29.216 (2),
29.563 (6m), 29.563 (12) (a) 2. and 29.592 (3); and to create 29.171 (3) (b),
29.172, 29.193 (1m) (a) 1., 29.193 (1m) (a) 2., 29.216 (3) (b), 29.217, 29.235 (2)
dm), 29.235 (2m) (dm), 29.563 (2) (a) 8r., 29.563 (2) (b) 6m. and 29.563 (2g) of
the statutes; relating to: the authority to hunt certain animals with a
crossbow, establishing open seasons for hunting with a crossbow, and
information required to be included on certain hunting license applications and
certain hunting tags.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau
Under current law, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) issues hunting
licenses and establishes open hunting seasons that allow the hunting of specified
game animals. Among the licenses that DNR issues are resident and nonresident
archer hunting licenses. An archer hunting license allows the holder to hunt all
game, except bear, elk, and wild turkey, with a bow and arrow during the relevant
open season established by DNR. An archer hunting license allows a person to hunt only with a bow and arrow and not with a crossbow unless the person is disabled and holds a permit from DNR that authorizes the use of a crossbow or unless the person is at least 65 years old. This bill eliminates the age and disability requirements for using a crossbow. Instead, the bill establishes a new resident crossbow hunting license and a new nonresident crossbow hunting license.

The crossbow hunting licenses established in this bill allow a license holder to use a crossbow to hunt the same game animals that may be hunted under current law with an archer hunting license. The bill also allows the holder of an archer hunting license to obtain a crossbow hunting license at a substantially reduced fee and allows the holder of a crossbow hunting license to obtain an archer hunting license at a substantially reduced fee. As with other hunting licenses under current law, a person may not obtain a crossbow hunting license unless the person completes a course of instruction in hunter education or bow hunter education.

The bill also requires a person who applies for a deer hunting license to indicate on the license application whether the applicant intends to use a bow and arrow or a crossbow to hunt deer under the authority of that license.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

1. **SECTION 1.** 29.014 (1m) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

   29.014 (1m) (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).

2. **SECTION 2.** 29.024 (9) of the statutes is amended to read:

   29.024 (9) TAGS. The department shall provide all tags required under this chapter and shall specify their form and numbering. If the department requires a person who kills a game animal to attach a tag to the carcass of that animal, the person shall specify on the tag the type of weapon used to kill the animal.

3. **SECTION 3.** 29.171 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:
29.171 (2) A resident archer hunting license authorizes the hunting of all game, except bear, elk, and wild turkey, during the open seasons established by the department for hunting that game with bow and arrow established by the department. This license authorizes hunting with a bow and arrow only, unless hunting with a crossbow is authorized by a Class A, Class B, or Class C permit issued under s. 29.193 (2) or a permit issued under sub. (4).

SECTION 4. 29.171 (2m) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 5. 29.171 (3) of the statutes is renumbered 29.171 (3) (a) and amended to read:

29.171 (3) (a) The department shall issue to each person who is issued a resident archer hunting license a deer tag and a back tag.

SECTION 6. 29.171 (3) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

29.171 (3) (b) The department may not issue a deer tag or back tag to a person who is issued a resident archer hunting license at the reduced fee under s. 29.563 (2g).

SECTION 7. 29.171 (4) (a) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 8. 29.171 (4) (c) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 9. 29.172 of the statutes is created to read:

29.172 Resident crossbow hunting license. (1) A resident crossbow hunting license shall be issued subject to ss. 29.024 and 54.25 (2) (c) 1. d. by the department to any resident applying for this license.

(2) A resident crossbow hunting license authorizes the hunting of all game, except bear, elk, and wild turkey, during the open seasons for hunting that game with
a crossbow established by the department. This license authorizes hunting with a
crossbow only.

(3) (a) Except as provided under par. (b), the department shall issue to each
person who is issued a resident crossbow hunting license a deer tag and a back tag.

(b) The department may not issue a deer tag or back tag to a person who is
issued a resident crossbow hunting license at the reduced fee under s. 29.563 (2g).

SECTION 10. 29.185 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

29.185 (2) (b) Resident archer Archer licenses, crossbow licenses, and trapping
licenses. Notwithstanding ss. 29.171 (2), 29.172 (2), 29.216 (2), 29.217 (2), and 29.241
(3), a resident archer hunting license, a nonresident archer hunting license, a
resident crossbow hunting license, a nonresident crossbow hunting license, or a
trapping license does not authorize the hunting or trapping of wolves.

SECTION 11. 29.193 (1m) (a) of the statutes is renumbered 29.193 (1m) (a)
(intro.) and amended to read:

29.193 (1m) (a) The department shall, after an investigation and without
charging a fee, issue a trolling permit to any person who meets the any of the
following requirements under s. 29.171 (4) (a) 2. or 4.:

SECTION 12. 29.193 (1m) (a) 1. of the statutes is created to read:

29.193 (1m) (a) 1. Has an amputation or other loss of one or more arms above
the wrist.

SECTION 13. 29.193 (1m) (a) 2. of the statutes is created to read:

29.193 (1m) (a) 2. Has a permanent substantial loss of function in one or both
arms or one or both hands and fails to meet the minimum standards of any one of the
following standard tests, administered under the direction of a licensed physician or
a licensed chiropractor:
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1. a. Upper extremity pinch.
2. b. Grip.

Section 14. 29.193 (2) (cr) 2. of the statutes is renumbered 29.193 (2) (cr) 2.
(intro.) and amended to read:

29.193 (2) (cr) 2. (intro.) A Class A permit authorizes the holder to do all of the following:

a. Shoot or hunt from a stationary vehicle, to fish.

b. Fish or troll as authorized under sub. (1m) (b) and to hunt certain game with a crossbow as authorized under ss. 29.171 (2) and 29.216 (2).

Section 15. 29.216 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

29.216 (2) The nonresident archer hunting license authorizes the hunting of all game, except bear, elk, wild turkey, and fur-bearing animals, during the open season for the hunting of that game with a bow and arrow. This license authorizes hunting with a bow and arrow only unless hunting with a crossbow is authorized by a Class A, Class B, or Class C permit issued under s. 29.193 (2).

Section 16. 29.216 (2m) of the statutes is repealed.

Section 17. 29.216 (3) of the statutes is renumbered 29.216 (3) (a) and amended to read:

29.216 (3) (a) Deer tag and back tag. The department shall issue to each person who is issued a nonresident archer hunting license a deer tag and a back tag.

Section 18. 29.216 (3) (b) of the statutes is created to read:
29.216 (3) (b) The department may not issue a deer tag or back tag to a person who is issued a nonresident archer hunting license if the department issues the nonresident archer hunting license at the reduced fee under s. 29.563 (2g).

SECTION 19. 29.217 of the statutes is created to read:

29.217 Nonresident crossbow hunting license. (1) Issuance. A nonresident crossbow hunting license shall be issued subject to s. 29.024 by the department to any nonresident applying for this license.

(2) Authorization. The nonresident crossbow hunting license authorizes the hunting of all game, except bear, elk, wild turkey, and fur-bearing animals, during the open season for the hunting of that game with a crossbow.

(3) Deer tag and back tag. (a) The department shall issue to each person who is issued a nonresident crossbow hunting license a deer tag and a back tag.

(b) The department may not issue a deer tag or back tag to a person who is issued a nonresident crossbow hunting license at the reduced fee under s. 29.563 (2g).

SECTION 20. 29.235 (2) (dm) of the statutes is created to read:

29.235 (2) (dm) A resident crossbow hunting license.

SECTION 21. 29.235 (2m) (dm) of the statutes is created to read:

29.235 (2m) (dm) A nonresident crossbow hunting license.

SECTION 22. 29.563 (2) (a) 8r. of the statutes is created to read:

29.563 (2) (a) 8r. Crossbow: $21.25.

SECTION 23. 29.563 (2) (b) 6m. of the statutes is created to read:

29.563 (2) (b) 6m. Crossbow: 157.25.

SECTION 24. 29.563 (2g) of the statutes is created to read:
29.563 (2g) Reduced fees for certain archer and crossbow licenses.

Notwithstanding the fees under sub. (2) (a) 8. and 8r. and (b) 6. and 6m., the fee is $2.25 for any of the following licenses:

(a) A resident archer hunting license issued to a person who holds a resident crossbow hunting license, provided that the resident archer hunting license and the resident crossbow hunting license authorize hunting during the same hunting season.

(b) A nonresident archer hunting license issued to a person who holds a nonresident crossbow hunting license, provided that the nonresident archer hunting license and the nonresident crossbow hunting license authorize hunting during the same hunting seasons.

(c) A resident crossbow hunting license issued to a person who holds a resident archer hunting license, provided that the resident crossbow hunting license and the resident archer hunting license authorize hunting during the same hunting season.

(b) A nonresident crossbow hunting license issued to a person who holds a nonresident archer hunting license, provided that the nonresident crossbow hunting license and the nonresident archer hunting license authorize hunting during the same hunting seasons.

SECTION 25. 29.563 (6m) of the statutes is amended to read:

29.563 (6m) Reduced fees for certain first-time approvals. (a) The fee for an approval that is listed under sub. (2) (a) 1., 2., 4. to 5g., or 7. to 9., 8m., or 9., (3) (a) 1., or (6) (a) 1. is $4.25 if the approval is issued to a person who has not received that type of approval, or has not been conferred the privileges of that type of approval under a license issued under s. 29.231 or 29.235, in any of the 10 years preceding the date of application.
(b) The fee for an approval listed under sub. (2) (b) 1., 3., or 5. to 6., 7., 8., (3)
(b) 1., or (6) (am) is one-half of the fee listed for the respective approval, rounded up to the nearest dollar, if the approval is issued to a person who has not received that type of approval by the department, or has not been conferred the privileges of that type of approval under a license issued under s. 29.231 or 29.235, in any of the 10 years preceding the date of application.

SECTION 26. 29.563 (12) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:
29.563 (12) (a) 2. Archer, crossbow, sports, or conservation patron: $14.25 if deer tags are included; $11.25 after open season and deer tags are not included.

SECTION 27. 29.592 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:
29.592 (3) A person who is authorized to hunt with a mentor under this section and a mentor under this section with whom that person hunts may jointly have only one firearm, only one bow, or if hunting with a only one crossbow is authorized under s. 29.171 (4) or 29.193 (2), only one crossbow in their possession or control while hunting.

(END)