

2015 DRAFTING REQUEST

Bill

Received: 4/13/2015 Received By: rkite
For: Julie Lassa (608) 266-3123 Same as LRB:
May Contact: By/Representing: Ben Van Pelt
Subject: Nat. Res. - fish and game Drafter: rkite
Addl. Drafters:
Extra Copies:

Submit via email: YES
Requester's email: Sen.Lassa@legis.wisconsin.gov
Carbon copy (CC) to: elisabeth.shea@legis.wisconsin.gov

Pre Topic:

No specific pre topic given

Topic:

Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

Instructions:

See attached

Drafting History:

<u>Vers.</u>	<u>Drafted</u>	<u>Reviewed</u>	<u>Proofed</u>	<u>Submitted</u>	<u>Jacketed</u>	<u>Required</u>
/?	rkite 4/27/2015		_____			
/P1	rkite 8/12/2015	csicilia 4/28/2015	_____	srose 4/28/2015		State
/P2	rkite 10/1/2015	aernstr 8/13/2015	_____	lparisi 8/13/2015		State
/P3	rkite	aernstr	_____	lparisi		State

<u>Vers.</u>	<u>Drafted</u>	<u>Reviewed</u>	<u>Proofed</u>	<u>Submitted</u>	<u>Jacketed</u>	<u>Required</u>
/1	10/28/2015	10/1/2015	_____	10/1/2015		
		csicilia	_____	lparisi	mbarman	State
		10/28/2015	_____	10/28/2015	10/30/2015	

FE Sent For:

*at
intro*

<END>

Kite, Robin

From: Van Pelt, Ben
Sent: Monday, April 13, 2015 12:31 PM
To: Kite, Robin
Cc: Ford-Kelly, Jessica
Subject: Senator Lassa Preliminary Draft Request - Change to DNR Learn to Hunt Program
Attachments: Learn To Hunt Turkey Resolution.docx

Good Afternoon Robin,

Senator Lassa would like to request a p-draft of a bill to make an exemption in the DNR's Learn to Hunt Program. As you already know, the LTH program is available to folks until the first time they are successful in a hunt. This poses a problem for a group in our district who puts on a Wounded Warrior hunt every year, because once the veterans are successful (or sometimes if they have been successful before their deployment and injury) they will no longer be eligible for the hunt. These warriors are in need of the focused assistance the LTH program offers because often times they have mobility issues. The program's ability to put these hunts on during non-traditional seasons also allows greater flexibility for the mentors, who are usually out during the regular seasons (in this particular case it is turkey season).

We want to make an exemption for the 1-time only limitation in the LTH program specifically for wounded veterans. I have attached a resolution that the group in our district, in collaboration with the County Conservation Congress, is going to be passing this evening. Let us know if this is possible.

Please let us know if you have any questions or need any further information.

Thanks so much,

Ben Van Pelt
Office of Senator Julie Lassa
24th Senate District
(608) 266-3123

Wounded Warrior Mentored Turkey Hunt

The problem:

Currently we must hold our Wounded Warrior Turkey Hunts under the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Learn to Hunt Program.

The current rules of the Learn to Hunt program allow a Wounded Warrior to participate just once in lifetime.

If a Wound Warrior Turkey hunted prior to their deployment they are currently not allowed to participate in a Wounded Warrior Hunt.

If a Wounded Warrior is not successful in their first hunt they cannot participate in another Learn to Hunt program.

Many wounded warriors are not able to hunt without some form of assistance, so a mentored hunt is the best opportunity for them to participate.

All of the mentors are Turkey Hunters themselves, therefore a mentored hunt outside the current season frame work works best for Wounded Warriors.

Wounded Warriors should be given the opportunity to participate in a mentored hunt more than once.

The local warden is in support of this resolution.

The Area Wildlife Supervisor stated that this resolution will have no biological impacts on the Turkey Population.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Portage County on April 13, 2015 recommends that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources works with the Wisconsin Legislative bodies to change the Learn to Hunt Turkey rules to allow Wounded Warriors to participate in multiple hunts.

Matt Jacowski
6695 Eckels Rd
Plover, WI 54467
Portage County

715-347-3052

Kite, Robin

From: Van Pelt, Ben
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 10:10 AM
To: Kite, Robin
Cc: Ford-Kelly, Jessica; Sen.Lassa
Subject: RE: Senator Lassa Preliminary Draft Request - Change to DNR Learn to Hunt Program

Good Morning Robin,

I have some more information for you to assist in this drafting request.

First of all, there is not a set definition of Wounded Warrior that the group in our area uses. They collaborate with the United Special Sportsman Alliance (USSA – www.childswish.com) and to their knowledge they find the eligible wounded warriors, so they might have a better idea of which exact definition they use. To their knowledge they only allow veterans who were wounded in active duty (whether that injury occurred stateside on a base or overseas does not matter). I was given a contact, Bridget, (they did not have a last name) who helps through the USSA. Her number is 715-884-2256.

The other info I wanted to pass along were the DNR contacts that are supportive of this change.

Both Portage County DNR wardens are on board – Bryan Lockman and John Shadbark (spelling?)

The DNR Area Wildlife Specialist, Chris Johannsen is supportive.

And the Local Wildlife Biologist, Lesa Kardish, has said that she does not believe there will be any detrimental impact on the turkey population.

Unfortunately I do not have numbers for any of these folks off the top of my head, please let me know if you would like me to assist in tracking those down.

Thanks again for all your help,

Ben

From: Kite, Robin
Sent: Monday, April 13, 2015 1:04 PM
To: Van Pelt, Ben
Subject: RE: Senator Lassa Preliminary Draft Request - Change to DNR Learn to Hunt Program

Ben:

The “learn to hunt” program is not a statutory program nor is the program promulgated in rules except that it appears that the learn to hunt program is conducted as part of the hunting mentorship program which is a statutory program. Consequently, the drafting of this proposal is somewhat more complicated because there are no statutes to amend with a program that is not statutory. There are certainly other ways to draft this proposal but I wanted you to be aware that the program, as far as I can tell, is not currently in the statutes or rules.

It may help for me to talk about this issue with one of the attorneys at the Legislative Council or with a DNR warden. Is that okay? Also, I will need more information about how to define a wounded veteran. For example, is a veteran

eligible if he or she suffered any injury at all? Must the injury have been incurred during a war time period? There are many definitions of "disabled veteran" in the statutes. See for example, s. 71.07 (6n) (a) 2.

Thanks.
Robin

From: Van Pelt, Ben
Sent: Monday, April 13, 2015 12:31 PM
To: Kite, Robin
Cc: Ford-Kelly, Jessica
Subject: Senator Lassa Preliminary Draft Request - Change to DNR Learn to Hunt Program

Good Afternoon Robin,

Senator Lassa would like to request a p-draft of a bill to make an exemption in the DNR's Learn to Hunt Program. As you already know, the LTH program is available to folks until the first time they are successful in a hunt. This poses a problem for a group in our district who puts on a Wounded Warrior hunt every year, because once the veterans are successful (or sometimes if they have been successful before their deployment and injury) they will no longer be eligible for the hunt. These warriors are in need of the focused assistance the LTH program offers because often times they have mobility issues. The program's ability to put these hunts on during non-traditional seasons also allows greater flexibility for the mentors, who are usually out during the regular seasons (in this particular case it is turkey season).

We want to make an exemption for the 1-time only limitation in the LTH program specifically for wounded veterans. I have attached a resolution that the group in our district, in collaboration with the County Conservation Congress, is going to be passing this evening. Let us know if this is possible.

Please let us know if you have any questions or need any further information.

Thanks so much,

Ben Van Pelt
Office of Senator Julie Lassa
24th Senate District
(608) 266-3123

Kite, Robin

From: Van Pelt, Ben
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2015 5:18 PM
To: Kite, Robin
Cc: Sen.Lassa
Subject: RE: Learn to hunt

Robin,

I had a conversation with the head of the group we are working in Portage County, I came out of that discussion with an idea of what I think the best way to go might be.

I think creating an entirely new program (could be called the Mentored Wounded Warrior Turkey Hunt...or whatever) that would mirror the Learn to Hunt Program will be our best bet.

The new program would incorporate the following:

- All the aspects of the current learn to hunt program (with 1 exception, see following sub points)
 - This is a mentored-only hunt
 - It would require the same safety/training programs
 - This would include mentor training (if they are not already hunter safety trainer certified) with background checks every 5 years (this is how the LTH requirements were explained to me)
 - Hunter safety training for the participants/wounded warriors
 - Option of obtaining tags directly from the DNR for this program as opposed to having to buy them
 - All participants have to do then is receive what was described to me as a "customer #"
 - Signage for lands used would be the same
 - Currently a sign is typically posted notifying people that learn to hunt participants will be allowed to hunt at these specific times so there are no mix ups in who is actually allowed
 - EXCEPTION:
 - Currently the learn to hunt program offers a \$25 per participant reimbursement for the group putting it on. THIS IS NOT NEEDED for this particular program.
- This hunt would be specifically only for turkey hunting
- The time for participation would be the 2 weeks prior to the opening for regular turkey hunting season each year
- Participants must be defined as a wound warrior
 - As we discussed prior, the definition we can use is through the veterans group we discussed (USSA)
 - I believe there definition is any veteran wounded in active duty whether it is stateside or overseas

Let me know how this sounds and we can work with the DNR to make sure everything fits.

I am waiting to hear back from my constituent with any other possible recommendations.

Thanks again, Robin, and have a good night,

Ben Van Pelt
Office of Senator Julie Lassa
24th Senate District
(608) 266-3123

From: Kite, Robin
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2015 4:00 PM
To: Van Pelt, Ben
Subject: Learn to hunt

Ben:

Keith Warnke is the Learn to Hunt coordinator at DNR. His number is (608) 576-5243.

Robin

Robin N. Kite
Senior Legislative Attorney
Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau
1 E. Main St., Suite 200
Madison, WI 53703
(608) 266-7291



PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

D-Note

In
4/27

Gen Cat

1 AN ACT ~~...~~; relating to: requiring the Department of Natural Resources to
2 establish a special wild turkey hunting program for certain disabled veterans.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) issues various licenses, permits, and other approvals (approvals) authorizing hunting, fishing, and trapping. Among the approvals that DNR issues are wild turkey hunting licenses, stamps, and tags.

This bill requires DNR to administer a program under which it provides instruction to disabled veterans who are learning to hunt wild turkey and under which it establishes a special wild turkey hunting event during which only disabled veterans are allowed to participate. The bill defines a disabled veteran as a veteran who incurred an injury in the course of service in the U.S. armed forces on or after September 1, 2011.

2001

Under this bill, a disabled veteran may hunt wild turkey during a special wild turkey hunting event established by DNR if the disabled veteran holds the required turkey hunting approvals or has been issued a waiver from the approval requirements by DNR, receives instruction about wild turkey hunting as specified by DNR, and is accompanied by a mentor at all times while hunting. The bill requires the mentor to have at least five years of hunting experience and to provide instruction or assistance to the disabled veteran. The bill prohibits DNR from charging a disabled veteran participating in the program a fee to receive instruction or a waiver. The bill requires the special event to take place during the two week period immediately preceding the period during which the hunting of wild turkey is otherwise allowed by the department.

two-

For further information see the *state* 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:

SECTION 1. 29.054 of the statutes is created to read:

29.054 Special wild turkey hunting event. (1) In this section:

(a) "Disabled veteran" means a veteran who incurred an injury in the course of service in the U.S. armed forces on or after September 11, 2011. *2001* ✓

(b) "Mentor" means a person who has a least 5 years of hunting experience and who provides instruction or renders assistance to a disabled veteran learning to hunt wild turkey.

(2) The department shall administer a program under which it provides instruction to disabled veterans about wild turkey hunting and establishes a special wild turkey hunting event for disabled veterans who are learning to hunt wild turkey. A disabled veteran is authorized to hunt *wild turkey* during the special wild turkey hunting event established by the department under this subsection if all of the following apply: ✓

(a) The disabled veteran holds the required approvals under s. 29.164 or holds a waiver issued by the department under sub. (3).

(b) The disabled veteran receives instruction about wild turkey hunting as specified by the department.

(c) The disabled veteran is accompanied by a mentor at all times while hunting.

(3) The department shall issue a waiver to a disabled veteran under this section who applies for the waiver in the form and manner required by the department. A disabled veteran who is issued a waiver under this subsection may

1 hunt wild turkey during the special wild turkey hunting event established by the
2 department under sub. (2) without holding the required approvals under s. 29.164.

3 (4) The special wild turkey hunting event established under sub. (2) shall allow
4 wild turkey hunting during the 2 weeks immediately preceding the time period
5 during which wild turkey hunting is otherwise allowed by the department.

6 (5) The department may not charge a fee for a waiver issued, or the instruction
7 provided, by the department under this section.

8 (END)

d-note

**DRAFTER'S NOTE
FROM THE
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU**

LRB-2203/P1dn

RNK:.....

gjs

- Late -

This draft requires the Department of Natural Resources to establish a special wild turkey hunting event for certain disabled veterans. You had requested that this event be available to "Wounded Warriors". My understanding is that this group of disabled veterans are those that were wounded in the course of service in the armed forces on or after September 11, 2001. Consequently, this draft allows only these disabled veterans to participate in the special hunting event established in the draft. Is this consistent with your intent or did you want to allow all disabled veterans to participate in the event?

Please let me know if you have any questions about this draft.

Robin N. Kite
Senior Legislative Attorney
(608) 266-7291
robin.kite@legis.wisconsin.gov

The draft requires a mentor for a disabled veteran to have ^{five} years of hunting experience. Do you want the mentors to have experience ~~to~~ in wild turkey hunting? Do you want to require the mentor to hold a wild turkey hunting license?

specific

**DRAFTER'S NOTE
FROM THE
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU**

LRB-2203/P1dn
RNK:cjs:cs

April 28, 2015

This draft requires the Department of Natural Resources to establish a special wild turkey hunting event for certain disabled veterans. You had requested that this event be available to "Wounded Warriors." My understanding is that this group of disabled veterans are those that were wounded in the course of service in the armed forces on or after September 11, 2001. Consequently, this draft allows only these disabled veterans to participate in the special hunting event established in the draft. Is this consistent with your intent?

This draft requires a mentor for a disabled veteran to have five years of hunting experience. Do you want the mentor to have specific experience in wild turkey hunting? Do you want to require the mentor to hold a wild turkey hunting license?

Please let me know if you have any questions about this draft.

Robin N. Kite
Senior Legislative Attorney
(608) 266-7291
robin.kite@legis.wisconsin.gov

Kite, Robin

From: Van Pelt, Ben
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2015 2:33 PM
To: Kite, Robin
Subject: RE: Draft review: LRB -2203/P1 Topic: Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

If you can just leave that group out the draft that would be fine. This was a secondary suggestion and I will double back with the group before introduction to see how many people they estimate would be really affected.

Ben

From: Kite, Robin
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2015 2:26 PM
To: Van Pelt, Ben <Ben.VanPelt@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Draft review: LRB -2203/P1 Topic: Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

Ben:

You can certainly include the group of service members that you identify in item 2 below. But I don't know how to describe them in the draft. I could say that they are active duty members who have incurred a disability but I don't know how to describe that disability. That is, if I say that they have a 20% disability, who will make that determination? So do you want to ask the disabled veterans group how they want to make that determination and then get back to me? Or do you just want me to leave that group out of the draft? It's your call.

Thanks.
Robin

From: Van Pelt, Ben
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2015 2:21 PM
To: Kite, Robin <Robin.Kite@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Draft review: LRB -2203/P1 Topic: Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

Hey Robin,

Thanks so much for the quick reply. I will comment on these in order:

- 1.) 16.283 (1) (b) looks good to me. I think the cut off there is the 20% mark if I am reading it correctly.
- 2.) This was a discussion I had with one of the groups assisting Disabled Vets. They commented that there is sometimes a period between when an active duty soldier becomes wounded and when they are dismissed and become a disabled veteran. I don't think this is a huge # of folks, but the person I spoke was concerned that a few might not be eligible since this hunt would only be at a given time during the year. This might not be a concept we can incorporate, and if that is the case I am ok with not including it.
- 3.) See above^ just a weird time period before they are discharged (not sure if that is the correct term).
- 4.) Agreed, I just was not sure how the best way to do that was.

Thanks again for doing all of this and walking me through it. I think I told you when we first started this conversation that both hunting and vets are not issues I handle for the Senator, but the way this legislation was communicated to the office I ended up handling it. So it has been a bit of a learning experience.

Ben

From: Kite, Robin
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2015 1:43 PM
To: Van Pelt, Ben <Ben.VanPelt@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Draft review: LRB -2203/P1 Topic: Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

Ben:

I will be happy to redraft this proposal for you. I have a few comments and questions:

1. Would you like to define the term "disabled veteran" as under s. 16.283 (1) (b)? There are other definitions in current law but this one is quite broad.
2. You said that you would also like to include persons who are disabled but are on active duty. A person who is not on active duty is not a "veteran" so I will need to know how you would like to describe this category of people. Generally, a veteran is considered a disabled veteran if the veteran has a certain service-connected disability rating from the federal government. Given that this category of people will not be veterans, I don't think they will have a service-connected disability rating.
3. Are you certain that a person who has a disability of a type that would make the person unable to hunt in a regular hunting season would be eligible for active duty?
4. I recommend that the draft require that the mentor hold a hunting license (perhaps any hunting license, not just a wild turkey hunting license) in order to assist the veteran. Otherwise, the assistance that the mentor may be able to provide will be limited.

Let me know how you would like me to proceed.

Thanks.
Robin

From: Van Pelt, Ben
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2015 9:43 AM
To: Kite, Robin <Robin.Kite@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Sen.Lassa <Sen.Lassa@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Draft review: LRB -2203/P1 Topic: Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

Good Morning Robin,

I apologize for the incredibly long delay since we last spoke about this draft, but I wanted to start the conversation up again.

I wanted to request a few changes to this P-draft and also answer the questions in your DN.

First of all, after consulting with the couple of different groups up there the term "Wounded Warrior" is not the most appropriate one. We wanted this to be as inclusive of a program as possible. One that would benefit any disabled veteran or (as I was informed by one of the Vets groups up there) any disabled service man or woman who is technically still in active duty. I know there is a broad list of what comprises disabled vets here in WI and the DVA has a listing on their website with the % disabled and how many vets fall under these categories (for some reason I cannot seem to find it right now, but I have seen it before).

Second, I wanted to get to your questions in the DN after speaking with the group hoping to continue the hunt:

- 1.) No
- 2.) No

I think they felt that any hunting experience was adequate, and did not want to hamstring volunteers with having to have that experience plus a license. From my understanding they have a much harder time getting mentors to volunteer than they do to find disabled vets to partake in the hunt. I realize that we probably have to have something in there about having a general hunting license or some experience, I just am not all together that familiar with that area of this bill. Please advise.

If you have any questions or want to give me a call because it has been so long please feel free to.

Thanks so much for all your help and I hope you are well,

Ben Van Pelt
Office of Senator Julie Lassa
24th Senate District
(608) 266-3123

From: LRB.Legal

Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 1:48 PM

To: Sen.Lassa <Sen.Lassa@legis.wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Draft review: LRB -2203/P1 Topic: Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

Following is the PDF version of draft LRB -2203/P1 and drafter's note.



PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

SAV
REGEN

1 AN ACT to create 29.054 of the statutes; relating to: requiring the Department
2 of Natural Resources to establish a special wild turkey hunting program for
3 certain disabled veterans.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) issues various licenses, permits, and other approvals (approvals) authorizing hunting, fishing, and trapping. Among the approvals that DNR issues are wild turkey hunting licenses, stamps, and tags.

This bill requires DNR to administer a program under which it provides instruction to disabled veterans who are learning to hunt wild turkey and under which it establishes a special wild turkey hunting event during which only disabled veterans are allowed to participate. The bill defines a disabled veteran as a veteran who incurred an injury in the course of service in the U.S. armed forces on or after September 1, 2001. *INS. Analysis*

Under this bill, a disabled veteran may hunt wild turkey during a special wild turkey hunting event established by DNR if the disabled veteran holds the required turkey hunting approvals or has been issued a waiver from the approval requirements by DNR, receives instruction about wild turkey hunting as specified by DNR, and is accompanied by a mentor at all times while hunting. The bill requires the mentor to have at least five years of hunting experience and to provide instruction or assistance to the disabled veteran. The bill prohibits DNR from charging a disabled veteran participating in the program a fee to receive instruction or a waiver. The bill requires the special event to take place during the two-week

to hold a valid hunting approval

period immediately preceding the period during which the hunting of wild turkey is otherwise allowed by the department.

For further information see the *state* 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:

1 SECTION 1. 29.054 of the statutes is created to read:

2 **29.054 Special wild turkey hunting event.** (1) In this section:

3 (a) "Disabled veteran" means a veteran who incurred an injury in the course
4 of service in the U.S. armed forces on or after September 11, 2001. INS. 2-4

5 (b) "Mentor" means a person who has ^{at least} 5 years of hunting experience and INS. 2-5
6 who provides instruction or renders assistance to a disabled veteran learning to hunt
7 wild turkey.

8 (2) The department shall administer a program under which it provides
9 instruction to disabled veterans about wild turkey hunting and establishes a special
10 wild turkey hunting event for disabled veterans who are learning to hunt wild
11 turkey. A disabled veteran is authorized to hunt wild turkey during the special wild
12 turkey hunting event established under this subsection if all of the following apply:

13 (a) The disabled veteran holds the required approvals under s. 29.164 or holds
14 a waiver issued by the department under sub. (3).

15 (b) The disabled veteran receives instruction about wild turkey hunting as
16 specified by the department.

17 (c) The disabled veteran is accompanied by a mentor at all times while hunting.

18 (3) The department shall issue a waiver to a disabled veteran under this
19 section who applies for the waiver in the form and manner required by the
20 department. A disabled veteran who is issued a waiver under this subsection may

1 hunt wild turkey during the special wild turkey hunting event established under
2 sub. (2) without holding the required approvals under s. 29.164.

3 (4) The special wild turkey hunting event established under sub. (2) shall allow
4 wild turkey hunting during the 2 weeks immediately preceding the time period
5 during which wild turkey hunting is otherwise allowed by the department.

6 (5) The department may not charge a fee for a waiver issued, or the instruction
7 provided, by the department under this section.

8 (END)

2015-2016 DRAFTING INSERT
FROM THE
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

LRB-2203/P2ins.
RNK:...

INSERT ANALYSIS

No 9/ is a resident of this state and who has ^{va} service-connected disability rating under federal law of at least 20 percent

INSERT 2-4

1 No 9/ means a person who is all of the following:

2 1. A veteran, as defined in s. 45.01 (12).

3 2. A resident of this state.

4 3. The recipient of an award from the U.S. department of veterans affairs of a
5 service-connected disability rating under 38 USC 1114 or 1134 of at least 20 percent.

INSERT 2-4

6 No 9/ , who holds any valid hunting approval issued by the department,

Kite, Robin

From: Van Pelt, Ben
Sent: Wednesday, September 16, 2015 9:48 AM
To: Kite, Robin
Subject: RE: Draft review: LRB -2203/P2 Topic: Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

Hey Robin,

Thanks for the follow up. I had a conversation with Tim about 2 weeks regarding this and sent him over all the materials to get his take on everything. Unfortunately I still have not heard back. I will let you know as soon as I do.

Thanks again!

Ben

From: Kite, Robin
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2015 10:00 AM
To: Van Pelt, Ben <Ben.VanPelt@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Draft review: LRB -2203/P2 Topic: Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

Ben:

I just wanted to follow-up with you about this draft. Do you have any further redraft instructions?

Thanks.
Robin

From: Van Pelt, Ben
Sent: Thursday, September 03, 2015 10:50 AM
To: Kite, Robin <Robin.Kite@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Draft review: LRB -2203/P2 Topic: Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

I will check with Tim over at the DNR really quick and then get back to you. I like the sound of that last option, it just clarifies it a little more.

Thanks!

Ben

From: Kite, Robin
Sent: Thursday, September 03, 2015 10:24 AM
To: Van Pelt, Ben <Ben.VanPelt@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Draft review: LRB -2203/P2 Topic: Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

Your interpretation is correct, Ben. I assumed that you would not want to disqualify a person from participating in a learn to hunt event if the person has a license. But I can redraft this draft so that it only contains the waiver language. Perhaps even if a person has a license, DNR would interpret the bill so that the person also has a waiver. I thought that the safest thing to do is to specifically allow people with a license to participate in the event. One option would be to reword the language so that it requires DNR to give a waiver and then includes an additional sentence that

says that a person who holds a license is not disqualified from participating in the event. Let me know if you want me to do a redraft.

Thanks.
Robin

From: Van Pelt, Ben
Sent: Thursday, September 03, 2015 9:18 AM
To: Kite, Robin <Robin.Kite@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Draft review: LRB -2203/P2 Topic: Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

Good Morning Robin,

I had a conversation with a few groups regarding this bill and wanted to clarify one part of the analysis:

“Under this bill, a disabled veteran may hunt wild turkey during a special wild turkey hunting event established by DNR if the disabled veteran holds the required turkey hunting approvals or has been issued a waiver from the approval requirements by DNR”

Our groups were concerned that the disabled vets would need to have a turkey hunting license to participate in the program. Obviously that was not our intent when drafting this bill and I interpreted this part as saying that we would not exclude disabled vets who already have a license and they would be able to participate without receiving a waiver...BUT everyone else looking to participate in the program would, for lack of a better term, automatically qualify for a waiver.

Please let me know your thoughts on this.

Thanks so much,

Ben Van Pelt
Office of Senator Julie Lassa
24th Senate District
(608) 266-3123

From: LRB.Legal
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 4:13 PM
To: Sen.Lassa <Sen.Lassa@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Draft review: LRB -2203/P2 Topic: Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

Following is the PDF version of draft LRB -2203/P2.

Kite, Robin

From: Van Pelt, Ben
Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2015 9:36 AM
To: Kite, Robin
Cc: Sen.Lassa
Subject: FW: Draft review: LRB -2203/P2 Topic: Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

Good Morning Robin,

I just received a response from Tim Gary over at the DNR yesterday and he indicates the best language to use for the waiver piece of the bill in his email below.

If you could draft a /p3 that includes this and also changes the disability percentage to 50% as we had discussed that would be much appreciated.

Thank you so much for all your work on this,

Ben Van Pelt
Office of Senator Julie Lassa
24th Senate District
(608) 266-3123

From: Gary, Timothy J - DNR [mailto:Timothy.Gary@wisconsin.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 11:08 AM
To: Van Pelt, Ben <Ben.VanPelt@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Draft review: LRB -2203/P2 Topic: Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

Ben,

Thank you for your patience on this.

To avoid ambiguity, it would be helpful language was added to the of the bill that "would require the DNR to issue a waiver from the requirement to hold an approval under this chapter to individuals who otherwise qualify for the program".

Let me know if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

We are committed to service excellence.

Visit our survey at <http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> to evaluate how I did.

Tim Gary
Legislative Liaison
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Phone: (608) 266-2120
Timothy.Gary@wisconsin.gov

From: Van Pelt, Ben [mailto:Ben.VanPelt@legis.wisconsin.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 18, 2015 4:40 PM

To: Gary, Timothy J - DNR

Subject: RE: Draft review: LRB -2203/P2 Topic: Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

Tim,

Thanks for getting back to me on this and for the suggestions.

I think we can probably make things a bit more uniform for the Department by increasing the rate to 50% for service-connected disability.

As far as the "waiver" goes, do you believe we can add to the language of the bill something that "would require the DNR to issue a waiver to individuals who otherwise qualify for the program" and also add in language allowing folks who already do possess a wild turkey hunting license? This was the crux of the concerns that folks had about the original draft language, because it leaves it a bit uncertain whether individuals will end up obtaining those waivers, so we wanted to set it in stone.

Please let me know about this ASAP.

I also wanted to share some concern from Senator Lassa and I about moving through the Disability Advisory Council. According to the website the last meeting of the Council was held in early 2013, so the Senator would prefer to just move forward because she wants to introduce this very soon.

Thanks again for your help and have a good weekend,

Ben

From: Gary, Timothy J - DNR [<mailto:Timothy.Gary@wisconsin.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, September 16, 2015 6:25 PM

To: Van Pelt, Ben <Ben.VanPelt@legis.wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: Draft review: LRB -2203/P2 Topic: Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

Ben,

The department does not receive the federal grants for zero fee licenses. However, the department routinely issues license/permit waivers of this nature for department-sponsored Learn to Hunt (LTH) events.

This LTH turkey event would require a veteran have a service-connected disability rating of at least 20% to participate. Currently we have three "approvals" with two different disability rating requirements:

- To qualify for the resident disabled veteran recreation card, a vet must be at least 50% disabled;
- To qualify for the resident disabled veterans' fishing license, a vet must be at least 70% disabled;
- To qualify for the resident disabled veteran or former POW Park Admission Card, a vet must be at least 70% disabled.

The differing percent disability for veteran approvals and now for this LTH event can be difficult for customers to understand and can lead to questions like, "why am I disabled enough for a disabled veteran recreation card but not disabled enough for a disabled veteran fishing license?". Limiting the percent disability to one of the two already established (at least 50% or at least 70%) would simplify, but may not meet your intent.

Regardless, the Department would recommend Senator Lassa share this bill with our Disability Advisory Council for its opinion. The department relies on them, extensively.

Let me know if you need anything else.

Sincerely,

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Tim Gary
Legislative Liaison
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Phone: (608) 266-2120
Timothy.Gary@wisconsin.gov

From: Van Pelt, Ben [<mailto:Ben.VanPelt@legis.wisconsin.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, September 03, 2015 11:14 AM
To: Gary, Timothy J - DNR
Subject: FW: Draft review: LRB -2203/P2 Topic: Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

Tim,

To follow up on our phone conversation just now, here is the email chain I discussed. This is a conversation I am having with Robin over at the LRB about a specific question in the bill draft which I attached. I highlighted an option that Robin suggested in her last email that I would like to pursue, but wanted to run it past you first.

The problem we are having is that we want to make sure that disabled vets will be approved to participate in this program without requiring they get a turkey hunting license because it is a mentored program. I would rather clearly establish a waiver process rather than just say (as the draft states right now) that a disabled vet either needs a license or a waiver from the DNR to participate. Instead, Robin's option of requiring the DNR to give a waiver unless they already have a license makes it a bit more concrete.

Let me know what you think.

Thanks,

Ben Van Pelt
Office of Senator Julie Lassa
24th Senate District
(608) 266-3123

From: Kite, Robin
Sent: Thursday, September 03, 2015 10:24 AM
To: Van Pelt, Ben <Ben.VanPelt@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Draft review: LRB -2203/P2 Topic: Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

Your interpretation is correct, Ben. I assumed that you would not want to disqualify a person from participating in a learn to hunt event if the person has a license. But I can redraft this draft so that it only contains the waiver language. Perhaps even if a person has a license, DNR would interpret the bill so that the person also has a waiver. I thought that the safest thing to do is to specifically allow people with a license to participate in the event. One option would be to reword the language so that it requires DNR to give a waiver and then includes an additional sentence that says that a person who holds a license is not disqualified from participating in the event. Let me know if you want me to do a redraft.

Thanks.

Robin

From: Van Pelt, Ben
Sent: Thursday, September 03, 2015 9:18 AM
To: Kite, Robin <Robin.Kite@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Draft review: LRB -2203/P2 Topic: Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

Good Morning Robin,

I had a conversation with a few groups regarding this bill and wanted to clarify one part of the analysis:

“Under this bill, a disabled veteran may hunt wild turkey during a special wild turkey hunting event established by DNR if the disabled veteran holds the required turkey hunting approvals or has been issued a waiver from the approval requirements by DNR”

Our groups were concerned that the disabled vets would need to have a turkey hunting license to participate in the program. Obviously that was not our intent when drafting this bill and I interpreted this part as saying that we would not exclude disabled vets who already have a license and they would be able to participate without receiving a waiver...BUT everyone else looking to participate in the program would, for lack of a better term, automatically qualify for a waiver.

Please let me know your thoughts on this.

Thanks so much,

Ben Van Pelt
Office of Senator Julie Lassa
24th Senate District
(608) 266-3123

From: LRB.Legal
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 4:13 PM
To: Sen.Lassa <Sen.Lassa@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Draft review: LRB -2203/P2 Topic: Learn to hunt program eligibility for disabled veterans

Following is the PDF version of draft LRB -2203/P2.



PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

1 *see* **AN ACT to create** 29.054 of the statutes; **relating to:** requiring the Department
2 of Natural Resources to establish a special wild turkey hunting program for
3 certain disabled veterans.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) issues various licenses, permits, and other approvals (approvals) authorizing hunting, fishing, and trapping. Among the approvals that DNR issues are wild turkey hunting licenses, stamps, and tags.

This bill requires DNR to administer a program under which it provides instruction to disabled veterans who are learning to hunt wild turkey and under which it establishes a special wild turkey hunting event during which only disabled veterans are allowed to participate. The bill defines a disabled veteran as a veteran who is a resident of this state and who has a service-connected disability rating under federal law of at least ⁵⁰~~20~~ percent.

Under this bill, a disabled veteran may hunt wild turkey during a special wild turkey hunting event established by DNR if the disabled veteran holds the required turkey hunting approvals or has been issued a waiver from ~~the~~ approval requirements by DNR, receives instruction about wild turkey hunting as specified by DNR, and is accompanied by a mentor at all times while hunting. The bill requires the mentor to have at least five years of hunting experience, to hold a valid hunting approval, and to provide instruction or assistance to the disabled veteran. The bill prohibits DNR from charging a disabled veteran participating in the program a fee to receive instruction or a waiver. The bill requires the special event to take place

all hunting

during the two-week period immediately preceding the period during which the hunting of wild turkey is otherwise allowed by the department.

For further information see the *state* 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:

1 **SECTION 1.** 29.054 of the statutes is created to read:

2 **29.054 Special wild turkey hunting event.** (1) In this section:

3 (a) “Disabled veteran” means a person who is all of the following:

4 1. A veteran, as defined in s. 45.01 (12).

5 2. A resident of this state.

6 3. The recipient of an award from the U.S. department of veterans affairs of a
7 service-connected disability rating under 38 USC 1114 or 1134 of at least ~~20~~⁵⁰ percent.

8 (b) “Mentor” means a person who has at least 5 years of hunting experience,
9 who holds any valid hunting approval issued by the department, and who provides
10 instruction or renders assistance to a disabled veteran learning to hunt wild turkey.

11 (2) The department shall administer a program under which it provides
12 instruction to disabled veterans about wild turkey hunting and establishes a special
13 wild turkey hunting event for disabled veterans who are learning to hunt wild
14 turkey. A disabled veteran is authorized to hunt wild turkey during the special wild
15 turkey hunting event established under this subsection if all of the following apply:

16 (a) The disabled veteran holds the required approvals under s. 29.164 or holds
17 a waiver issued by the department under sub. (3).

18 (b) The disabled veteran receives instruction about wild turkey hunting as
19 specified by the department.

20 (c) The disabled veteran is accompanied by a mentor at all times while hunting.

Kite, Robin

From: Van Pelt, Ben
Sent: Tuesday, October 27, 2015 3:09 PM
To: Kite, Robin
Subject: FW: Draft review: LRB -2203/P3
Attachments: 15-2203/P3.pdf

Good Afternoon Robin,

We are now in the process of gathering co-authors to introduce this bill with us and I have received final confirmation from the DNR that it will do what we intend. If you could please put together an introducible /1 that would great!

Thanks again for all your help on this,

Ben

From: LRB.Legal
Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2015 2:25 PM
To: Sen.Lassa <Sen.Lassa@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Draft review: LRB -2203/P3

Following is the PDF version of draft LRB -2203/P3.



~~PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION~~

stamps

2015 BILL

Be Cat

SA

1 AN ACT to create 29.054 of the statutes; relating to: requiring the Department
2 of Natural Resources to establish a special wild turkey hunting program for
3 certain disabled veterans.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

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Under this bill, a disabled veteran may hunt wild turkey during a special wild turkey hunting event established by DNR if the disabled veteran holds the required turkey hunting approvals or has been issued a waiver from all hunting approval requirements by DNR, receives instruction about wild turkey hunting as specified by DNR, and is accompanied by a mentor at all times while hunting. The bill requires the mentor to have at least five years of hunting experience, to hold a valid hunting approval, and to provide instruction or assistance to the disabled veteran. The bill prohibits DNR from charging a disabled veteran participating in the program a fee to receive instruction or a waiver. The bill requires the special event to take place

during the two-week period immediately preceding the period during which the hunting of wild turkey is otherwise allowed by the department.

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7 service-connected disability rating under 38 USC 1114 or 1134 of at least 50 percent.

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10 instruction or renders assistance to a disabled veteran learning to hunt wild turkey.

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12 instruction to disabled veterans about wild turkey hunting and establishes a special
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15 turkey hunting event established under this subsection if all of the following apply:

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17 a waiver issued by the department under sub. (3).

18 (b) The disabled veteran receives instruction about wild turkey hunting as
19 specified by the department.

20 (c) The disabled veteran is accompanied by a mentor at all times while hunting.

Barman, Mike

From: Van Pelt, Ben
Sent: Friday, October 30, 2015 1:06 PM
To: LRB.Legal
Subject: Draft Review: LRB -2203/1

Please Jacket LRB -2203/1 for the SENATE.