



**WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
ACT MEMO**

2017 Wisconsin Act 343 [2017 Assembly Bill 605]	Youth Trapping
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2017 Wisconsin Act 343 authorizes a person under the age of 16 to engage in trapping under the supervision of a licensed trapper without holding a trapping license or completing trapper education and creates a mentored trapping license.

Under the Act, the mentored trapping license authorizes trapping by a mentee while in contact with a mentor who meets certain qualifications. To qualify as a trapping mentor under the Act, the person must: (1) be at least 18 years of age; (2) if the mentee is under age 18, be the parent or guardian of the mentee or be authorized by the parent or guardian to serve as mentor; (3) be in contact with the mentee at all times when serving as a mentor; and (4) hold a current valid trapping license or be authorized to trap without holding a trapping license under state law. A person may be issued only two mentored trapping licenses in his or her lifetime, and each mentored trapping license is valid for only one trapping season.

The Act specifies that each trap used by a person who is trapping with a qualified mentor must be tagged with a metal tag stamped with the name and address or customer identification number of the person using the trap, the qualified mentor, or both. If the trap is tagged only by a person who is trapping with a qualified mentor, the trap may be operated only by that person or by the mentor and only when both are present.

The Act provides that a person under the supervision of a licensed trapper or receiving instruction from a mentor may take a trap belonging to a supervising trapper or mentor, or take the contents of that trap.

Effective date: April 18, 2018. The mentored trapping license provisions in the Act take effect on September 1, 2018.

Prepared by: Rachel Letzing, Principal Attorney

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.