AN ACT to create 29.097 and 29.971 (1n) of the statutes; relating to: prohibiting contests for killing wild animals and providing a penalty.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill prohibits the organization of and participation in contests for killing wild animals. “Contest” is defined as an organized or sponsored competition with the objective of taking, capturing, or killing a wild animal for entertainment or for the chance to win designated prizes. “Contest” does not include a lawful fishing tournament. The bill prohibits a person from doing any of the following: 1) organizing, conducting, or sponsoring a contest; 2) providing a venue for a contest; and 3) participating in a contest. A violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a forfeiture.

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:

SECTION 1. 29.097 of the statutes is created to read:

29.097 Contests for killing wild animals. (1) In this section, “contest” means an organized or sponsored competition with the objective of taking, capturing,
or killing a wild animal for entertainment or for the chance to win designated prizes. “Contest” does not include a fishing tournament conducted with the permits required by the department and that complies with the terms and conditions of the permit.

(2) No person may do any of the following:

(a) Organize, conduct, or sponsor a contest.

(b) Provide a venue for a contest.

(c) Participate in a contest.

SECTION 2. 29.971 (1n) of the statutes is created to read:

29.971 (1n) (a) For the violation of s. 29.097 (2) (a) or (b), by a forfeiture of not less than $1,000 nor more than $2,000.

(b) For the violation of s. 29.097 (2) (c), by a forfeiture of not more than $500.

SECTION 3. Initial applicability.

(1) This act first applies to a contest, as defined in s. 29.097 (1), that is conducted on the effective date of this subsection.