February 22, 2019 - Introduced by Representatives EDMING, GUNDERM, KUGLITSCH, KULP, MURSAU, OLDENBURG, PRAKINSKIE, QUINN, SKOWRONSKI, SUBECK and TUSELER, cosponsored by Senators PETROWSKI, CARPENTER, MARKLEIN, OLSEN, SCHACHTNER and SMITH. Referred to Committee on Forestry, Parks and Outdoor Recreation.

AN ACT to amend 29.983 (1) (b) 5.; and to create 29.983 (1) (b) 5m. of the statutes; relating to: a higher wild animal protection surcharge for the unlawful taking of deer.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau
This bill increases the wild animal protection surcharge that a court may impose when a person unlawfully kills, wounds, catches, takes, traps, or possesses a deer.

Under current law, if a court imposes a fine or forfeiture for the unlawful killing, wounding, catching, taking, trapping, or possession of certain wild animals, the court may impose a wild animal protection surcharge. The statute specifies the amount of the surcharge allowed for each type of wild animal. Under current law, the surcharge specified for deer is $43.75. Under this bill, the surcharge specified for deer is an amount in the court’s discretion that is not less than $43.75 and not more than $5,000.

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. 29.983 (1) (b) 5. of the statutes is amended to read:
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29.983 (1) (b) 5. For any deer, coyote, raccoon, or mink, $43.75.

SECTION 2. 29.983 (1) (b) 5m. of the statutes is created to read:

29.983 (1) (b) 5m. For any deer, an amount in the court’s discretion that is not less than $43.75 and not more than $5,000.

SECTION 3. Initial applicability.

(1) This act first applies to violations that occur on the effective date of this subsection.