AN ACT to amend 169.04 (5) (a) 2., 169.07 (3) (a), 169.08 (3) (a), 169.10 (4) (a) and 169.11 (3) (a) of the statutes; relating to: captive wildlife in facilities holding a U.S. Department of Agriculture exhibitor license.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill exempts a facility that holds a U.S. Department of Agriculture exhibitor license from state license requirements relating to captive wild animals. Current law generally prohibits the possession, exhibition, propagation, sale, and purchase of wild animals without a relevant license issued by the Department of Natural Resources. Public zoos and aquariums, which are facilities operated by the state or by a city, village, or county or that are an accredited member of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association, are exempt from these license requirements.

The bill also exempts from the license requirements a private facility that holds a valid Class C exhibitor license issued by the USDA. This license is required under the federal Animal Welfare Act for any individual or business engaged in public exhibition of animals covered by the act.

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. 169.04 (5) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

169.04 (5) (a) 2. A public zoo or aquarium or a private facility that holds a valid Class C exhibitor license issued by the U.S. department of agriculture.

SECTION 2. 169.07 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

169.07 (3) (a) A public zoo or aquarium or a private facility that holds a valid Class C exhibitor license issued by the U.S. department of agriculture.

SECTION 3. 169.08 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

169.08 (3) (a) A public zoo or aquarium or a private facility that holds a valid Class C exhibitor license issued by the U.S. department of agriculture.

SECTION 4. 169.10 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

169.10 (4) (a) A public zoo or aquarium or a private facility that holds a valid Class C exhibitor license issued by the U.S. department of agriculture.

SECTION 5. 169.11 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

169.11 (3) (a) Public zoos and aquariums, and private facilities that hold a valid Class C exhibitor license issued by the U.S. department of agriculture, are exempt from the prohibition under sub. (1) (b).

(END)