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**WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
ACT MEMO**

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<b>2003 Wisconsin Act 59</b> [2003 Assembly Bill 106]	<b>Transferring a Bear Hunting License to a Minor</b>
2003 Acts: <a href="http://www.legis.state.wi.us/2003/data/acts/">www.legis.state.wi.us/2003/data/acts/</a>	Act Memos: <a href="http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/act_memo/act_memo.htm">www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/act_memo/act_memo.htm</a>

2003 Wisconsin Act 59 allows a person who is issued a Class A bear hunting license to transfer that license to a person who is at least 12 years old but under the age of 18.

**Background Information**

Bear hunting licenses are obtained through a cumulative preference system in which preference points are accrued each year. Minors who commence accumulating preference points may take a number of years to acquire enough points to obtain a bear hunting license. The concern is that by that time the minor may have moved on to work or college and may not be able to use the bear hunting license. Estimates are that it may take from four to nine years in order to accumulate enough preference points to obtain a bear hunting license.

**2003 Wisconsin Act 59**

2003 Wisconsin Act 59 authorizes a person who is issued a Class A bear license to transfer the license to a person who is at least 12 years old but under the age of 18. It is expected that this will typically be done by older relatives. The minor then has all rights to the license, but does not give up any of the preference points that the minor may have accrued at that time. The person who transfers the license to the minor gives up the preference points associated with that license. Bear hunting licenses may be transferred by either a Wisconsin resident or a nonresident, and either resident or nonresident minors may be the transferee. If a resident transfers a bear hunting license to a nonresident minor, the resident must pay a fee equal to the difference between the two licenses. If a nonresident transfers a bear hunting license to a resident minor, the nonresident does not obtain a rebate of the fee. The Act prohibits any payment for the transfer.

**Effective Date:** October 31, 2003

**Prepared by:** Mark C. Patronsky, Senior Staff Attorney

November 3, 2003

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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.