



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2005 Assembly Bill 131

**Assembly
Amendment 1**

Memo published: November 3, 2005

Contact: Mark C. Patronsky, Senior Staff Attorney (266-9280)

Current law allows the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to issue trapping licenses only to state residents. In order to obtain a trapping license, most residents must obtain a trapper education certificate from the DNR. Exemptions to this requirement are provided under current statutes for persons who held a state trapping license prior to May 12, 1992, and farmers.

Assembly Bill 131 creates a non-resident trapping license and establishes a fee of \$149.25 for the license. (The resident trapping license costs \$19.25.) In order to obtain a trapping license, a non-resident must successfully complete the trapper education course in Wisconsin or a similar course in another state.

The bill also allows the DNR, in administering trapping permits, to impose greater or stricter limitations on trapping by non-residents than on trapping by residents, if DNR establishes a permit system that regulates the trapping of bobcats, fishers, or otters.

Assembly Amendment 1 eliminates a provision in the bill regarding use of a certificate of accomplishment from the trapper education program in place of a trapping license. The current statute allows a resident who successfully completes the trapper education program and who pays the instruction fee to use the certificate of accomplishment as a license for the first year of trapping, without purchasing a trapping license. The bill expands this provision to apply also to non-residents who take the trapper education course. Assembly Amendment 1 deletes this provision, so that non-resident trappers who complete the course of instruction will be required to obtain a trapping license for the first year of trapping.

The bill includes an effective date of March 10, 2005. Assembly Amendment 1 changes the effective date to April 1, 2006 to allow additional time to incorporate the new non-resident trapping license into the automated licensing system.

Legislative History

The Assembly Committee on Natural Resources recommended passage of Assembly Bill 131 on April 12, 2005, on a vote of Ayes, 15; Noes, 0. Assembly Amendment 1 was offered by Representative Gunderson on April 15, 2005, and the Joint Committee on Finance recommended adoption of Assembly Amendment 1 on October 31, 2005, on a vote of Ayes, 16; Noes, 0.

MCP:rv