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State of Misconsin 2003 - 2004 LEGISLATURE

2003 ASSEMBLY BILL 569

October 9, 2003 – Introduced by Representatives Petrowski, Kreuser, Musser, Suder, Hines, Gunderson, Albers, Vrakas, Ladwig, Bies and Weber. Referred to Committee on Tourism.

1 AN ACT to create 29.425 of the statutes; relating to: the daily bag limit for

participants in bass fishing tournaments.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law prohibits a person from possessing any wild animal, including fish, in excess of the bag limit for that animal. This bill authorizes a participant in a bass fishing tournament for which the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has issued a permit, and in which each boat is equipped with a live well, to take bass in excess of the daily bag limit under certain circumstances.

Under this bill, a bass fishing tournament participant may take bass in excess of the daily bag limit if the participant either immediately releases the bass into the water or holds it in a live well. Any bass held in the live well at any one time may not exceed the daily bag limit. Any bass released back into the water must be able to swim away in a healthy condition.

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. 29.425 of the statutes is created to read:

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1	29.425 Bass fishing tournaments. (1) "Live well" means a container that
2	is used to hold live fish and that meets standards established by the department by
3	rule.
4	(2) Notwithstanding s. 29.055, a participant in a bass fishing tournament for
5	which the department has issued a permit and in which each boat is equipped with
6	a live well may take bass in excess of the daily bag limit if all of the following apply:
7	(a) The participant either immediately releases the bass into the water from
8	which it was taken or holds the bass in a live well.
9	(b) The bass held in a live well by the participant at any one time does not exceed
10	the daily bag limit.
11	(c) Each bass when released by the participant into the water from which it was
12	taken is able to swim away in a healthy condition.
13	(END)