



2003 ASSEMBLY BILL 782

January 29, 2004 – Introduced by Representatives KAUFERT, OTT, OLSEN, KRAWCZYK and HUNDERTMARK, cosponsored by Senators ROESSLER and SCHULTZ. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

1 **AN ACT to repeal** 29.237 (1m) (a) and 29.237 (1m) (b); and **to renumber and**
2 **amend** 29.237 (1m) (intro.) of the statutes; **relating to:** age requirement for
3 sturgeon spearing license.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law states that the Department of Natural Resources shall issue a license authorizing the spearing of sturgeon (sturgeon spearing license) to any person who is 14 or 15 years old or any person who is at least 14 years old and holds a sports license, or holds a fishing license. A sports license is a combination license that confers the privileges of certain hunting licenses as well as a fishing license. A change in this law that took effect on March 10, 2003, repealed the provision allowing the holder of a fishing license to be entitled to a sturgeon spearing license. The repeal of this provision results in the remaining provisions being interpreted to allow persons who are 14 and 15 years old to receive a sturgeon spearing license without having any other fishing license and, paradoxically, to require that persons who are at least 16 years old have a sports license to receive a sturgeon spearing license.

This bill allows anyone who is at least 14 years old to be able to receive a sturgeon spearing license without having any other fishing license. Persons under the age of 14 years remain ineligible for a sturgeon spearing license.

