



State of Wisconsin  
2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

LRB-3723/1  
EHS:jld

## 2017 ASSEMBLY BILL 416

June 29, 2017 - Introduced by Representatives EDMING, KRUG, KULP, MURSAU, QUINN, RIPP, SWEARINGEN, TITTL and TUSLER, cosponsored by Senators PETROWSKI, MARKLEIN, OLSEN, RISSER and WANGGAARD. Referred to Committee on Environment and Forestry.

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 29.983 (1) (a); and *to create* 29.983 (1) (c), 29.983 (1) (cg) and  
2 29.983 (1) (cr) of the statutes; **relating to:** a higher wild animal protection  
3 surcharge for the unlawful taking of deer.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

This bill increases the wild animal protection surcharge that a court may impose when a person unlawfully hunts, snares, possesses, or controls a deer with large antlers.

Under current law, if a court imposes a fine or forfeiture for the unlawful killing, wounding, catching, taking, trapping, or possession of certain wild animals, the court may impose a wild animal protection surcharge. The statute specifies the amount of the surcharge allowed for each type of wild animal.

This bill allows a court to impose a higher wild animal protection surcharge when it imposes a fine or forfeiture for the unlawful hunting, snaring, possession, or control of a deer with antlers of a certain size. The bill requires the Department of Natural Resources to establish a method for measuring antler size, and specifies the amount of the surcharge for different sizes of antlers. If both a regular and a higher wild animal protection surcharge are allowed, the bill requires a court to impose the higher surcharge.

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For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

1           **SECTION 1.** 29.983 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           29.983 (1) (a) If a court imposes a fine or forfeiture for a violation of a provision  
3 of this chapter or an order issued under this chapter for the unlawful killing,  
4 wounding, catching, taking, trapping, or possession of a wild animal specified in par.  
5 (b), or any part of such a wild animal, the court may impose a wild animal protection  
6 surcharge under ch. 814 that equals the amount specified for the wild animal under  
7 par. (b), except as provided in par. (c).

8           **SECTION 2.** 29.983 (1) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

9           29.983 (1) (c) If a court imposes a fine for a violation of s. 29.971 (11) and the  
10 affected deer has antlers of a size specified in par. (cg), the court shall impose a wild  
11 animal protection surcharge under ch. 814 that equals the amount specified in par.  
12 (cg) for a deer with that size of antlers. If a wild animal protection surcharge under  
13 both pars. (b) and (cg) applies, the court shall impose the applicable wild animal  
14 protection surcharge listed under par. (cg).

15           **SECTION 3.** 29.983 (1) (cg) of the statutes is created to read:

16           29.983 (1) (cg) The amount of the wild animal protection surcharge imposed  
17 under ch. 814 for deer with antlers of the following sizes shall be as follows:

18           1. For any deer with antlers measuring at least 125 inches but less than 150  
19 inches, not less than \$43.75 nor more than \$2,000.

20           2. For any deer with antlers measuring at least 150 inches but less than 170  
21 inches, not less than \$2,001 nor more than \$5,000.

