

State of Misconsin 2019 - 2020 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4627/1 EHS:amn

2019 SENATE BILL 535

October 31, 2019 - Introduced by Senators Tiffany and Marklein, cosponsored by Representatives Edming, Ballweg, Bowen, Felzkowski, Horlacher, Kulp, Kurtz, Milroy, Mursau and Novak. Referred to Committee on Transportation, Veterans and Military Affairs.

- 1 AN ACT to amend 167.31 (2) (d); and to create 167.31 (4) (fm) of the statutes;
- 2 **relating to:** the authority to shoot a wild animal causing damage to a highway.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Natural Resources may remove or authorize the removal of a wild animal that is causing damage or that is causing a nuisance. Generally, the removal may involve capturing, shooting, setting a trap for, relocating, or otherwise destroying or disposing of the wild animal. However, current law generally prohibits anyone from discharging a firearm within 50 feet of the center of a roadway. This bill adds an exception to this prohibition for DNR or an agent of a city, village, town, or county authorized by DNR to shoot a wild animal that is causing damage to a highway.

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

- 3 **Section 1.** 167.31 (2) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:
- 4 167.31 (2) (d) Except as provided in sub. (4) (a), (bg), (cg), (e), (fm), and (g), no
- 5 person may discharge a firearm or shoot a bolt or an arrow from a bow or crossbow
- from or across a highway or within 50 feet of the center of a roadway.

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SECTION 2

| SECTION 2. 167. | 31 (| 4) (| (fm) | of the | statutes | is | created | to | read: |
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167.31 (4) (fm) Subsection (2) (d) does not prohibit the department of natural resources, acting under s. 29.885, or an agent of a city, village, town, or county authorized by the department of natural resources under s. 29.885 from discharging a firearm within 50 feet of the center of a roadway in order to dispose of an animal that is causing damage to a highway in which the roadway is located.

7 (END)