



**Senator Moulton testimony on AB 107
Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy
May 13, 2015**

Thank you Chairman Cowles and other committee members for the opportunity to testify on Assembly Bill 107. As a Co-Chair of Wisconsin's Sportsmen's Caucus, I am happy to testify on behalf of our first legislative proposal.

Wisconsin is one of many states that have an established a *Venison Donation Program*. The program has existed for many years and has been successful at facilitating the charitable donations of harvested deer meat. Under current law, counties that participate in the *Venison Donation Program* are entitled to full reimbursement from the state for the costs associated with processing the meat. The program is funded by a \$2 surcharge on most hunting licenses. AB 107 would expand Wisconsin's current *Venison Donation Program* to include Wild Turkey. Under the proposal, counties will be given the authority to facilitate the donation of Wild Turkey meat to charitable organizations and food distribution services. The proposal establishes the *Venison and Wild Turkey Donation Program* and retains the same established Venison Program eligibility requirements and reimbursement funding formula without allocating new funds or creating any new surcharges or fees.

One of the main reasons I chose to author this legislation in the Senate was to provide an avenue for outdoorsmen and women to give back to their communities by donating surplus meat and putting healthy meals on the tables of needy citizens.

AB 107 passed the Assembly on a voice vote and I hope the committee will similarly support this bill in committee today. Assembly bill 107 create another way Wisconsinites can give back to their communities and help those in need. Thank you for your support of this bill.



JOEL KLEEFISCH

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 38TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Assembly Bill 107 (Senate Bill 79): Relating to authorizing reimbursement to counties for the costs incurred in processing and donating certain wild turkeys

Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy

Thank you Chairman Cowles and members of the Committee on Natural Resources for holding a hearing today on Assembly Bill 107 which expands Wisconsin's existing *Venison Donation Program* to include Wild Turkey.

Wisconsin's *Venison Donation Program* has existed for many years and has been successful at facilitating the charitable donations of harvested deer meat. All a hunter has to do is field dress and register the deer, then take the deer and the carcass tag to a participating processor. The processor, in turn, processes the carcass and distributes the meat to a local nonprofit for distribution within the community.

County Land and Water Conservation Departments, food pantries, charitable organizations, Hunt for the Hungry, USDA - Wildlife Services and participating processors all help implement and administer the program in 57 counties.

Counties are eligible for the full reimbursement from the state for the costs associated with processing and donating meat through the donation program. The reimbursement is funded in part by a \$2 Wildlife Damage Surcharge on resident and non-resident small game, deer, bear, elk and turkey hunting licenses.

Assembly Bill 107 expands the existing program, establishing the *Venison and Wild Turkey Donation Program*. Under the bill, hunters and processors who want to donate wild turkey will have an opportunity to do so in much the same manner as currently allowed. The new program will be funded by the same \$2 license surcharge; no new funds will be allocated, and no new fees will be assessed.

It is important that Wisconsin help facilitate the donation of harvested game meat, it is a great way to put healthy meals on the tables of needy families. This legislation is supported by the majority of the Wisconsin Sportsmen's Caucus, and has already received widespread bipartisan support. Thank you for considering Assembly Bill 107, I am happy to answer any questions.



Remarks of Scott Loomans
Before the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy
May 12, 2015

Chair Cowles and committee members:

Assembly Bill 107 would add turkeys to the current deer donation program, a program which currently pays for the cost of processing donated venison which is then distributed to food pantries.

The deer donation program is funded by a \$2.00 surcharge on the sales of most hunting licenses (\$4.00 from a conservation patron license) and from the cost of each bonus antlerless deer hunting permit. This is also the funding source for the Wildlife Damage Abatement Claims Program.

The program is authorized to spend up to \$600,000 in a biennium to reimburse licensed meat facilities for the cost of processing deer and to administer the program. Actual expenditures have been lower in recent years, closer to \$150,000 in 2014 only, reflecting lower deer harvests.

Publicizing the program and the distribution of funds is done by the department. Local partners at the county level recruit licensed meat facilities for participation in the program. In 49 counties, the local partners are USDA-Wildlife Services and the remaining 21 counties have a county employee administer the program or hire an independent wildlife damage specialist. These are the same people who administer aspects of the Wildlife Damage Abatement Claims Program locally.

The meat is distributed by charities such as:

- Hunt for the Hungry (<http://www.huntforthehungry.com/>) in the Northeast,
- Southwest Community Action Program, Dodgeville
- Community Action, Inc., Janesville
- Community Action Coalition for South Central Wisconsin, Madison
- Central WI Community Action Coalition, Wisconsin Dells

Since the program began in 2000, hunters have donated over 85,000 deer which were processed into over 3.8 million pounds of ground venison!

Attachment: *Wisconsin Deer Donation 2014*



WISCONSIN DEER DONATION 2014

Funded by Wisconsin's Wildlife Damage Program and Hunter Donations

HUNTERS, you can help feed needy people throughout Wisconsin this fall by taking four simple steps:

- ♣ **Donate any legally harvested deer by dropping it off at a participating processor by Feb. 1, 2015. DEER REGISTERED WITH A RED METAL TAG must be tested for CWD before processing and can only be donated in Adams, Columbia, Dane, Grant, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Juneau, Kenosha, Lafayette, Portage, Racine, Richland, Rock, Sauk, Walworth, and Waukesha counties.**
- ♣ **Deer taken outside of the above listed counties and sampled for a CWD test may only be donated to a venison processor who has agreed to accept these deer. These processors are marked with an asterisk.**
- ♣ **Prior to donating the deer, field dress and register it at a WI DNR registration station or obtain and write your confirmation number on the carcass tag if participating in the e-registration pilot program. Handle the carcass as if it was destined for your own table. Donate the entire deer to receive the processing costs for free (head & antlers may be kept for mounting).**
- ♣ **Call First! Contact one of the participating processors before dropping the deer off to verify the processor has space to accept your deer. Some counties with metro deer management units may be accepting deer until the end of the metro hunts. Check locally with your processor.**

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| ADAMS: Hartnell's Wild Game (608) 339-7288 1925 Cypress Ave, Arkdale | Gorham Meats (715) 644-2721 500 Sawmill Rd, Stanley | *Spring Brook Meats (715) 664-8585 N3485 810 St, Elk Mound |
| ASHLAND: *Pearce's Sausage Kitchen (715) 682-3742 61327 Dahlstrom Rd, Ashland | CLARK: *Nolechek Meats (715) 669-5580 104 N Washington St, Thorp | EAU CLAIRE: Mike's Star Market (715) 552-3842 2238 Heimstead Rd, Eau Claire |
| BARRON: *Almena Meat Co (715) 357-3592 741 Garfield St, Almena | Pinter's Packing Plant (715) 654-5444 193 Front St, Dorchester | Augusta Meats (715) 286-2920 825 Industrial Dr, Augusta |
| *Louie's Finer Meats (715) 822-4728 2025 Superior Ave, Cumberland | CRAWFORD: Eastman Locker (608) 874-4331 107 N Main St, Eastman | FOND DU LAC: *Brandon Meats (920) 346-2227 117 S Commercial St, Brandon |
| The Meat Market (715) 234-6335 1907 Kern Ave, Rice Lake | Kickapoo Locker (608) 735-4531 325 Main St, Gays Mills | *Eden Meat Market (920) 477-2711 115 Main St, Eden |
| BROWN: Easy Street Meats (920) 866-2461 4811 N Cty P, New Franken | COLUMBIA: D & G Custom Meat Processing (608) 635-2140 N4173 Hwy 51, Poynette | *Loehr's Meat Service (920) 533-4513 523 E Main St, Campbellsport |
| Paul's Pantry (Drop-off Only) (920) 433-0343 1520 Leo Frigo Way, Green Bay | Lodi Sausage & Meat Market (608) 592-3534 150 South Main St., Lodi | FOREST: *Schaefer's Food Mart (715) 478-2558 600 E. Pioneer, Crandon |
| BUFFALO: *Eagle's Peak Processing (715) 946-3988 W999 Cty NN, Mondovi | DANE: Dick's Quality Meats (608) 843-1944 Hwy 18/151 and Erb Rd. Mt Horeb | GRANT: Bloomington Meats (608) 994-2867 413 Canal St, Bloomington |
| *Gunderson Food Service (715) 926-4903 847 E Main St, Mondovi | Fred's Village Market (608) 849-5393 112 W. Main St., Waunakee | Hidden View Butcher (608) 822-7080 5308 Hwy 18 West, Fennimore |
| BURNETT: *Lock and Load (715) 488-2931 21125 E River Rd, Grantsburg | Stoddard's Country Grove Market (608) 839-4228 205 E. Cottage Grove Rd., Cottage Grove | Spring Valley Meats (608) 794-2011 7301 Rattlesnake Rd, Cassville |
| CALUMET: *Beck's Meats, Inc. (920) 687-2516 W2012 Cty JJ, Kaukauna | DNR Station (Drop-off Only) (608) 574-3862 4738 Hwy 78, Black Earth | GREEN: County E Locker (608) 862-1320 N6833 Cty Rd. E, Albany |
| *Hickory Hills Ctry Meats (920) 849-2618 W3445 Hickory Hills Rd, Chilton | DODGE: Detjen's Northern Trails (920) 261-7807 109 Emerald St, Watertown | Hoesly's Meats (608) 527-2513 219 Industrial Dr., New Glarus |
| CHIPPEWA: Bob's Processing (715) 568-2887 2430 S Main St, Bloomer | *Leroy Meats (920) 485-2554 85 Washington St, Horicon | IOWA: DNR Station by Eagle Mart (Drop-off Only) (608) 574-4956 8029 Hwy 151, Barneveld |
| Chuck Wagon Meats (715) 723-9537 4271 220 th St, Cadott | *Pernat-Haase Meats (920) 386-3340 N4202 Hwy M, Juneau | JACKSON: Jay's Cut-N-Stuff (715) 662-2205 N6447 Cty N, Taylor |
| Crescent Meats (715) 289-3000 & Catering 15332 Hwy 27, Cadott | DOOR: Haberli's Deer Processing (920) 743-5736 4259 Haberli Rd, Sturgeon Bay | *Sandberg Valley Deer (608) 488-4508 N1381 Sandberg Rd, Melrose |
| *Lotts-A-Meat (715) 568-2222 2310 S Main St, Bloomer | DOUGLAS: *Hursh Meat Processing (715) 364-6855 10083 E Oak Rd, Poplar | J & V Meats (608) 396-1001 587 N Bend Dr, Melrose |
| Shadick's Price Rite (715) 568-4430 1502 16 th Ave, Bloomer | DUNN: *Bri's Processing (715) 962-3825 N8084 State Rd 40, Colfax | JEFFERSON: Pernat's Premium Meats (920) 699-6990 312 Milwaukee St., Johnson Creek |

River's Edge Market (920) 674-6466
521 S. Main St., Jefferson

JUNEAU:

Rockie Top Meats (608) 462-4400
N3825 County P, Elroy

Wisconsin River Meats (608) 847-7413
N5340 Hwy HH, Mauston

KEWAUNEE:

Theys Venison Processing (920) 609-0309
E1831 River Rd., Casco

LACROSSE:

*Craig's Meats (608) 486-2212
N9064 Hwy 162 N, Mindoro

LAFAYETTE:

Kraus Meat Service (608) 543-9624
16990 Valley Rd., Argyle

Riechers Meat Processing (608) 439-5339
103 W. Center Rd., South Wayne

LANGLADE:

*Arrowood's Wildside (715) 489-3501
W7498 Hwy 47, Antigo

LINCOLN:

*Geiss Meat Service (715) 536-5283
W4490 Pope Rd, Merrill

MANITOWOC:

*Newton Meats (920) 726-4455
5616 Cty U, Newton

Peter's Pantry (Drop-off Only)

843 S 21 St, Manitowoc (920) 682-6989

MARATHON:

Country Fresh Meats (715) 359-1311
9902 Weston Ave, Weston

Custom Meats (715) 443-3734
1300 Hwy 107 S, Marathon

Smith Brothers Meats (715) 223-2777
822 S Division St, Hwy 13 S, Colby

Zillman's Processing (715) 845-5123
1910 N 6th St, Wausau

MARINETTE:

*Johnson's Market (715) 789-2212
W4150 Hwy 64, Peshtigo

*Liljestrand's One Stop (715) 732-4152
701 Main St, Marinette

*Meatski's (920) 897-3392
W11124 Hwy 64, Pound

*Pelkin's Venison Proc. (715) 854-3681
608 Henriette St, Crivitz

Starzer Meats (920) 897-3108
4067 Crescent Lane, Pound

MILWAUKEE:

*Buenzel's Meats (414) 873-7960
8415 W Burleigh, Milwaukee

Hampton Market (414) 466-3291
5308 W Hampton Ave, Milwaukee

MONROE:

Tom's Custom Meats (608) 272-3213
6400 Acorn Ave, Sparta

The Meat Place (608)343-0661
122 S. West Railroad St, Kendall

*Wally's Block (608) 372-6039
25329 Grain Ave, Tomah

OCONTO:

Gillett Meats (920) 855-2898
214 E Railroad St, Gillett

Melotte's Meats (920) 826-5668
4705 Brookside Rd, Abrams

ONEIDA:

Lake Tomahawk Custom Processing
7259 State Hwy 47 (715) 277-3337

TJ's Butcher Block (715) 356-5258
8796 Packing Plant Rd, Minocqua

OUTAGAMIE:

*Beck's Meats (920) 687-2516
W2012 Cty JJ, Kaukauna

*Cedar Creek Meat Market(920) 734-8792
3220 E Northland Ave, Appleton

OZAUKEE:

Blau's Saukville Meats (262) 284-0898
501 E Green Bay Ave, Saukville

Schwai's Meat & Sausage (262) 692-2731
W3940 Hwy H, Fredonia

PIERCE:

Pierce County Meats (715) 273-4741
460 E Wall St, East Ellsworth

*Ptacek's IGA (715) 262-5636
1449 Orrin Rd, Prescott

POLK:

Amery Meat Market (715) 268-7515
116 Central Ave, Amery

Swank's Meats (715) 483-3386
Hwy 8 & CTY Y, St Croix Falls

Van Meter's Meats (715) 472-2141
407 S Main St, Luck

PORTAGE:

People's Meat Market (715) 592-6328
1765 County J, Stevens Point

RICHLAND:

Richland Locker (608) 647-4577
590 S. Main St., Richland Center

RUSK:

*Barney's Grocery (715) 353-2271
N3770 5th St, Weyerhaeuser

ST CROIX:

*Deer's Food Locker (715) 269-5118
210 N Main St, Deer Park

*Glenwood City Lockers (715) 265-4833
424 1st St, Glenwood City

*Kessler Processing (715) 265-4248
1181 Hwy 128, Glenwood City

*Powers Wild Game (715) 377-3291
2040 Hwy 65, New Richmond

SAUK:

Straka Meats (608) 546-3301
915 Alma Ave., Plain

SAWYER:

*D & E Custom Butcher (715) 634-3100
15989 Nursery Rd, Hayward

*Whiskey Ridge Sport (715) 945-2414
Hwy 27 & 70, Radisson

SHAWANO:

*Adam's Meats (715) 754-5136
W10947 Riverside Rd, Marion

Kropf's Meat Processing (715) 793-4675
N7666 Kolpack Rd, Bowler

*Pingel's Meats (715) 524-4513
528 S Main Street, Shawano

SHEBOYGAN:

Howards Grove Meat Mrkt (920) 565-2215
211 S. Wisconsin Dr., Howards Grove

Miesfeld's Market Inc (920) 565-6328
4811 Venture Dr, Sheboygan

TAYLOR:

Hickory Nutz Sausage (715) 748-4828
N3009 Sunset Rd, Medford

TREMPEALEAU:

Strum Locker Plant (715) 695-2914
128 5th Ave, Strum

VERNON:

Westby Locker & Meats (608) 634-4515
406 N Main St, Westby

VILAS:

*Prime Choice Butcher (715) 479-4456
1144 Hwy 45 South, Eagle River

WASHINGTON:

Gehring's Meat Market (262) 644-6272
5618 Hwy K, Hartford

Kewaskum Foods (262) 626-2181
118 Forest Ave, Kewaskum

WAUPACA:

Niemuth's Steak & (715) 258-2666
Chop Shop 715 Redfield St, Waupaca

Harper's Countryside Cuts (715) 754-2002
E5092 Portnoy Rd., Tigerton

Pine Grove Meats (715) 445-3826
N7210 Knutson Lk Rd, Ogdensburg

WAUSHARA:

Pine River Processing (920) 987-5191
W2575 Aspen Dr, Pine River

*Stone Ridge Meats (920) 787-5444
975 E Main St, Wautoma

WINNEBAGO:

*Beck's Meat Processing (920) 589-2104
519 Clairville Rd, Oshkosh

WOOD:

*A & B Butchering (715) 435-3893
6971 Hwy 34, Rudolph

Hewitt's Meat Processing (715) 676-3654
8300 Cty V, Marshfield

Pittsville Meats (715) 884-6816
5328 Hwy 80, Pittsville

*Strictly Wild Processing (715) 421-0587
140 Buffalo St, Wisconsin Rapids

Wisconsin Deer Donation 2014 is operated in cooperation with the following organizations

