



## 2017 ASSEMBLY BILL 441

July 14, 2017 - Introduced by Representatives MURPHY, HINTZ, BERCEAU, RIPP, BOWEN, SPREITZER and THIESFELDT, cosponsored by Senator L. TAYLOR. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources and Sporting Heritage.

- 1     **AN ACT to create** 29.237 (6) of the statutes; **relating to:** issuance of sturgeon  
2           spearing licenses via raffle by the Sturgeon for Tomorrow, Inc., organization.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

This bill requires the Department of Natural Resources to issue five certificates for sturgeon spearing licenses to an organization known as Sturgeon for Tomorrow, Inc., to be awarded by the organization as prizes at a raffle.

Under current law, DNR is required to issue a sturgeon spearing license to any person applying for the license who is at least 12 years old. Each license issued by DNR is required to be accompanied by sturgeon carcass tags in a quantity corresponding with the season bag limit for spearing lake sturgeon. A sturgeon spearing license authorizes the spearing of lake sturgeon, subject to any limits established by DNR, only during the open season for spearing sturgeon.

This bill requires DNR to issue five certificates for sturgeon spearing licenses to an organization known as Sturgeon for Tomorrow, Inc., if the organization applies for the certificates. The bill authorizes the organization to award the certificates as prizes at a raffle. If the person who receives a certificate presents the certificate to DNR with the appropriate required fees, the bill requires DNR to issue the person a sturgeon spearing license that authorizes the taking of sturgeon on lakes upriver of Lake Winnebago and applicable carcass tags. A person may be issued only one sturgeon spearing license under this program in his or her lifetime. This bill also requires the organization to use the proceeds from the raffle to further sturgeon management and research.

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For further information see the *state* 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.** 29.237 (6) of the statutes is created to read:

2           29.237 (6) (a) In addition to any other sturgeon spearing license that the  
3 department issues under this section, the department shall issue 5 certificates for  
4 sturgeon spearing licenses to an organization known as Sturgeon for Tomorrow, Inc.,  
5 if the organization applies for the certificates for that season.

6           (b) The organization known as Sturgeon for Tomorrow, Inc., shall award each  
7 certificate issued under par. (a) as a prize in a raffle conducted by a subunit of the  
8 organization that is licensed to conduct raffles under ch. 563.

9           (c) The organization known as Sturgeon for Tomorrow, Inc., shall transfer the  
10 certificates awarded under par. (b) only to persons who are qualified to receive a  
11 sturgeon spearing license. A person who receives a certificate may present that  
12 certificate to the department and request a sturgeon spearing license that authorizes  
13 the taking of sturgeon on lakes upriver of Lake Winnebago. Upon receipt of the  
14 certificate and appropriate required fees, the department shall issue the holder of the  
15 certificate the appropriate sturgeon spearing license and applicable carcass tags  
16 under sub. (2).

17           (d) If the organization known as Sturgeon for Tomorrow, Inc., fails to transfer  
18 the certificates under par. (c), the certificates shall become invalid.

19           (e) The organization known as Sturgeon for Tomorrow, Inc., shall use the  
20 proceeds from the raffle under par. (b) in this state to further sturgeon management  
21 and research.

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1           (f) A person may be issued under par. (c) only one sturgeon spearing license in  
2           his or her lifetime, and the sturgeon spearing license shall be valid for only one  
3           sturgeon spearing season. The issuance under par. (c) of a license to the person is  
4           subject to ss. 29.024 (2g), 29.192 (4) (b) 1., and 29.569 (3) (b).

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**(END)**