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(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

## WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

### 2011-12

(session year)

### Assembly

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

### Committee on Natural Resources...

#### COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**

#### INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)  
(**ab** = Assembly Bill)                      (**ar** = Assembly Resolution)                      (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)  
(**sb** = Senate Bill)                              (**sr** = Senate Resolution)                              (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**

\* Contents organized for archiving by: Stefanie Rose (LRB) (August 2013)



- Loren Hanson, Janesville — Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association
- William Buckley, Poynette — Wisconsin Consulting Foresters
- Alex Rahmlow, Madison — Society of American Foresters - Wisconsin Chapter
- Don Waller, Madison
- Doris Rausch, Fort Atkinson — Association of Retired Conservationists
- Jamie Nack, Fall River — The Wildlife Society - Wisconsin Chapter
- Michael Arrowood, Oakfield
- Rod Anding, Arena

#### Appearances for Information Only

- Tom Hauge, Madison — Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- Jeff Pritzl, Madison — Department of Natural Resources
- Paul DeLong, Madison — Chief State Forester, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- Ed Harvey, Madison — Wisconsin Conservation Congress

#### Registrations For

- Ron Kuehn, Madison — Wisconsin Bow Hunters Association
- Jeff Perlewitz, Waukesha — Wisconsin Bowhunters Association
- Joseph Koback, Montello — Safari Club International

#### Registrations Against

- Richard Wedpohl, Madison
- Gunnar Bergersen, Madison — Lake States Lumber Association
- Tim Van Dorleau, Waunakee
- Jennifer Giegerich, Madison — Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters
- Jack Demby, Arena
- Betty Borchert, Oshkosh — Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
- Patricia Huckman, Randolph — Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
- George Borchert, Oshkosh — Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
- Marilyn Knuth, Plover
- Chuck Matyska, Cecil — Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
- Jerry Knuth, Plover
- Richard Wedepohl, Madison
- Robert Haase, Eldorado
- Katie Frerker, Madison
- Paul Swenson, Arena

Registrations for Information Only

- None.

June 21, 2011

**EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD**

Present: (0) None.  
Absent: (0) None.  
Excused: (0) None.

Moved by Representative Mursau, seconded by Representative Rivard that **Assembly Bill 99** be recommended for passage.

Ayes: (10) Representatives Mursau, Rivard, Williams, Kleefisch, Nerison, Severson, Steineke, Tiffany, Stroebel, Litjens.  
Noes: (5) Representatives Mason, Danou, Clark, Milroy and Hulsey.  
Absent: (1) Representative Molepske Jr.

PASSAGE RECOMMENDED, Ayes 10, Noes 5

  
Tim Gary  
Committee Clerk

## Vote Record Committee on Natural Resources

Date: June 21, 2011

Moved by: Williams      Seconded by: Rivard

AB 99      SB \_\_\_\_\_      Clearinghouse Rule \_\_\_\_\_  
 AJR \_\_\_\_\_      SJR \_\_\_\_\_      Appointment \_\_\_\_\_  
 AR \_\_\_\_\_      SR \_\_\_\_\_      Other \_\_\_\_\_

A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_  
 A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_  
 A/S Sub Amdt \_\_\_\_\_  
 A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Sub Amdt \_\_\_\_\_  
 A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Sub Amdt \_\_\_\_\_

Be recommended for:  
 Passage       Adoption       Confirmation       Concurrence       Indefinite Postponement  
 Introduction       Rejection       Tabling       Nonconcurrence

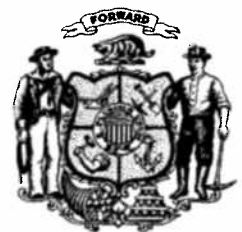
Committee Member	Aye	No	Absent	Not Voting
Representative Jeffrey Mursau, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Roger Rivard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Mary Williams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Joel Kleefisch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Lee Nerison	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Erik Severson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Jim Steineke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Thomas Tiffany	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Duey Stroebel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Michelle Litjens	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Cory Mason	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Louis Molepske Jr	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Chris Danou	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Fred Clark	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Nick Milroy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Brett Hulsey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Totals:    10    5    1    \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Carried       Motion Failed



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



**Gary, Tim**

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**From:** Sen.Moulton  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 14, 2011 11:42 AM  
**To:** \*Legislative Senate Republicans; \*Legislative Senate Democrats; \*Legislative Assembly Republicans; \*Legislative Assembly Independents; \*Legislative Assembly Democrats  
**Subject:** Co-Sponsorship of LRB1821/1: Prohibiting DNR from establishing certain restrictions on hunting antlered deer  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Blue  
**Attachments:** 11-18211.pdf  
**To:** Legislative Colleagues

**FROM:** Senators Moulton and Galloway, Representatives Tiffany and Mursau, Kestell, Steineke, J. Ott, Rivard, Severson

**DATE:** April 14, 2011

**RE:** Co-Sponsorship of LRB1821/1: Prohibiting DNR from establishing certain restrictions on hunting antlered deer

**DEADLINE: 5:00PM Tuesday, April 19, 2011**

Representative Tiffany and I are introducing legislation to address the social and economic future of Wisconsin's deer hunting heritage by protecting the historic and traditional integrity of the firearm, muzzleloader and archery deer seasons.

For over a decade, Earn-a-Buck and October antlerless (T-zone) hunts have been a major point of contention with hunters across the state. As studies have revealed, the social acceptance of deer management policy is critical to the success of any management plan. Without a buy-in from hunters and landowners it is doomed to fail.

Earn-a-Buck and early hunts have undermined the culture of deer hunting and there is no better example of that than the eight years of CWD management. The DNR's own numbers show a steady decline of hunters and harvest while their deer population estimates have continued to grow.

Intended to maintain thriving deer herds, these programs have actually led to an increase in tagging violations resulting in inaccurate registrations and population estimates.

This bill DOES NOT inhibit the DNR from using its arsenal of tools for herd control including antlerless tags, extended seasons or the use of early hunts for the control of disease. It does eliminate Earn-a-Buck and October T-zone hunts but statutorily ensures that even with aggressive herd control measures that some semblance of the traditional season framework stays intact.

Under the bill, DNR will be able to promulgate rules to allow for youth, mentored and disabled hunts. Also, the DNR will be able to promulgate rules to control the spread of

4/29/2011

CWD or other diseases.

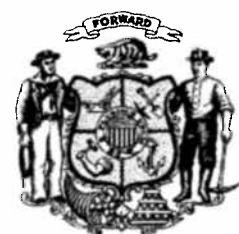
Deer hunting is deeply engrained in Wisconsin culture and is a billion dollar industry. Protecting this heritage for future generations is what this bill is about. With consistency and less regulation, we hope to put the fun back into deer hunting.

Those interested in signing onto the bill should contact the office of Sen. Moulton at 6-7511 or Rep. Tiffany at 6-7694 by Tuesday, April 19 at 5p.m. Unless otherwise noted, co-authors will be added to both Senate and Assembly versions of the bill.





WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



**Gary, Tim**

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**From:** Heinen, Paul H - DNR [Paul.Heinen@Wisconsin.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 18, 2011 2:30 PM  
**To:** Johnson, Dan; Gary, Tim  
**Subject:** FW: Legislation (LRB1821/1) Permanently Ending Earn-a-Buck and October Deer Hunting Regulations  
**Importance:** High  
FYI

Paul

---

**From:** George Meyer [mailto:georgemeyer@tds.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 18, 2011 12:19 PM  
**To:** 'Troy Brown'; 'Paul Strong'; 'Michael Bolton'; 'Matt Dallman'; 'Kimberly Quast'; 'Ken Ottman'; 'Jane Severt'; 'James Hoppe'; 'Fred Souba'; 'Bob Rogers'  
**Cc:** Weatherly, Jeffrey I - DNR; 'Wayne Hamann'; 'Warren, Linda'; 'Walsh, Patrick'; 'Tom Schmidt'; 'Tim Mulhern'; Eisele, Tim; Sukup, Laurel C - DNR; 'Stephen Dinehart'; Steffes, Laurel J - DNR; 'Stefan Bergmann'; 'Scott Sawle'; 'Sara Bredeson'; 'Roger Nacker'; 'Rickenbach, Mark'; 'Rick Degan'; 'Richard Hall'; 'Richard Connor, Jr.'; 'Randy Champeau'; 'Randy Bauman'; 'rachel jordan'; Prichard, Teague - DNR; 'Paul Pingrey'; 'Pam Porter'; Nelson, Tia - BCPL; 'Nancy Bozek'; 'Morice, T.'; 'Mike Prouty'; 'Mike Carroll'; 'Mike Carlson'; 'Mary Jean Huston'; Heyde, Mark A - DNR; Manwell, Robert J - DNR; 'Leon Church'; 'Laurie Tippin'; 'Langenohl, Tony'; 'Kevin McSweeney'; 'Ken Genskow'; 'Katie Fernholz'; 'John Koning'; 'Jim Miller'; 'Jim Heerey'; 'Jerry Greenberg'; 'Jeremy Solin'; Barkley, Jeffrey D - DNR; 'James Kerkman'; 'Henry Schienebeck'; Held, Kirsten L - DNR; 'Gunnar Bergersen'; 'Gregory Rebman'; 'Gerry Mich'; 'Gene Roark'; 'Gene Francisco'; 'Eric Uram'; Gustafson, Earl WPC; 'Dr. Jan Harms'; 'Dr. Chris Risbrudt'; 'Doug Kemmerley'; DNR DL AD FLT; 'David Zumeta'; 'Dave Ladd'; 'Dave Kluesner'; 'Charles Brooks'; 'Cara Boucher'; 'Calder Hibbard'; 'Butch Johnson'; 'Bridget Hagerty'; 'Bill Horvath'; 'Akhtar, Masood'  
**Subject:** Legislation (LRB1821/1) Permanently Ending Earn-a-Buck and October Deer Hunting Regulations  
**Importance:** High

All of you are deeply committed to the long term health of Wisconsin's Forests. That view is also strongly held by the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation. While as sportsmen and women we are deeply attached to the hunting of whitetail deer, we also understand the need for responsible deer management that takes into account the health of Wisconsin's Forests. A bill, LRB 1821/1, is currently being circulated which permanently ends the authority of the Department of Natural Resources to use Earn-a-Buck and October hunts as a tool to bring the deer herds under control in units where there is excessive damage to forests and agriculture. Only ten years ago forester owners and farmers were demanding this type of herd control to deal with an excessively high deer population.

The Federation is bringing this information to your attention so that you are able to weight in on this issue with your legislators and members. In addition the WWF will alert you to the time, place and location of the public hearing on this bill.

Please find below an email that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation sent to all Wisconsin legislators today expressing concern about the proposed legislation.

Thank you for your time,

George Meyer  
Executive Director  
Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

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Dear Representative:

Currently a bill draft is being circulated for signature which would eliminate the authority of the Department of Natural Resources to adopt Earn-a-Buck and October deer hunts (except in CWD areas) for all future deer hunting seasons.

The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation urges you to use caution and to not sign on to such a bill until you have heard an opportunity to hear from conservationists, farmers and those engaged in forestry in this state. There is no urgency for this legislation since the Department of Natural Resources is already proposing such regulations deleting Earn-a-Buck for the 2011 deer hunting season. Those regulations will be voted on by the DNR Board next week. The Federation is supporting the proposed DNR 2011 deer hunting regulations.

While Wisconsin deer hunters are concerned about low deer herd numbers now in many locations in the state, it was only ten years ago that farmers and forest owners were literally demanding that the DNR and the Legislature adopt strong new measures to reduce the substantial agricultural and forest damage from an out of control deer herd. Out of those demands came the Earn-a-Buck and October hunt requirements. For those of you that were in the legislature at that time, you will recall Earn-a-Buck was put into place by the DNR Board as a compromise with the Legislature. Then Speaker John Gard was the proponent of Earn-a-Buck.

Deer populations in Wisconsin are very dynamic and can swing from low populations to excessive populations in just a few years. There are over 120

deer hunting units in Wisconsin and it is not responsible deer management to say that there will never be a need for the DNR to use Earn-a-Buck or October hunts to bring the deer herd back into control. Loss of agricultural and forestry production will occur if those tools are not at least available to the DNR.

The Federation does believe that Earn-a-Buck was overused as a management tool by DNR in many deer management units in the past decade, but the solution is not to totally remove it as a deer management tool.

Some have indicated that the deer herd can be managed by just issuing more deer tags. That was the strategy that was employed by the DNR during the 1990s when I was DNR Secretary and it did not work as the deer herd exploded in the state over that time period.

In conclusion, the Federation is urging you to not support LRB1821/1 but to continue to provide strong oversight of DNR rulemaking to assure that Earn-a-Buck is used properly as a deer management tool.

Thank you on behalf of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation,

George Meyer

Executive Director

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation



## Gary, Tim

---

**From:** George Meyer [georgemeyer@tds.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 18, 2011 8:58 AM  
**To:** Rep. Severson; Rep. Richards; Rep. Seidel; Rep. Shilling; Rep. Sinicki; Rep. Soletski; Rep. Staskunas; Rep. Kuglitsch@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep. Rivard; Rep. Ringhand; Rep. Petryck@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep. Marklein; Rep. Pope-Roberts; Rep. Pridemore; Rep. Pocan; Rep. Petrowski; Rep. Petersen; Rep. Parisi; Rep. Loudenbeck; Rep. Nygren; Rep. Nerison; Rep. Nass; Rep. Murtha; Rep. Mursau; Rep. Molepske; Rep. Meyer; Rep. Kramer; Rep. Kleefisch; Rep. Kestell; Rep. Kessler; Rep. Krusick; Rep. LeMahieu; Rep. Mason  
**Subject:** [Possible SPAM] LRB1821/1---Deer Hunting Regulations  
**Importance:** Low  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Blue

Dear Representative:

Currently a bill draft is being circulated for signature which would eliminate the authority of the Department of Natural Resources to adopt Earn-a-Buck and October deer hunts (except in CWD areas) for all future deer hunting seasons.

The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation urges you to use caution and to not sign on to such a bill until you have heard an opportunity to hear from conservationists, farmers and those engaged in forestry in this state. There is no urgency for this legislation since the Department of Natural Resources is already proposing such regulations deleting Earn-a-Buck for the 2011 deer hunting season. Those regulations will be voted on by the DNR Board next week. The Federation is supporting the proposed DNR 2011 deer hunting regulations.

While Wisconsin deer hunters are concerned about low deer herd numbers now in many locations in the state, it was only ten years ago that farmers and forest owners were literally demanding that the DNR and the Legislature adopt strong new measures to reduce the substantial agricultural and forest damage from an out of control deer herd. Out of those demands came the Earn-a-Buck and October hunt requirements. For those of you that were in the legislature at that time, you will recall Earn-a-Buck was put into place by the DNR Board as a compromise with the Legislature. Then Speaker John Gard was the proponent of Earn-a-Buck.

Deer populations in Wisconsin are very dynamic and can swing from low populations to excessive populations in just a few years. There are over 120 deer hunting units in Wisconsin and it is not responsible deer management to say that there will never be a need for the DNR to use Earn-a-Buck or October hunts to bring the deer herd back into control. Loss of agricultural and forestry production will occur if those tools are not at least available to the DNR.

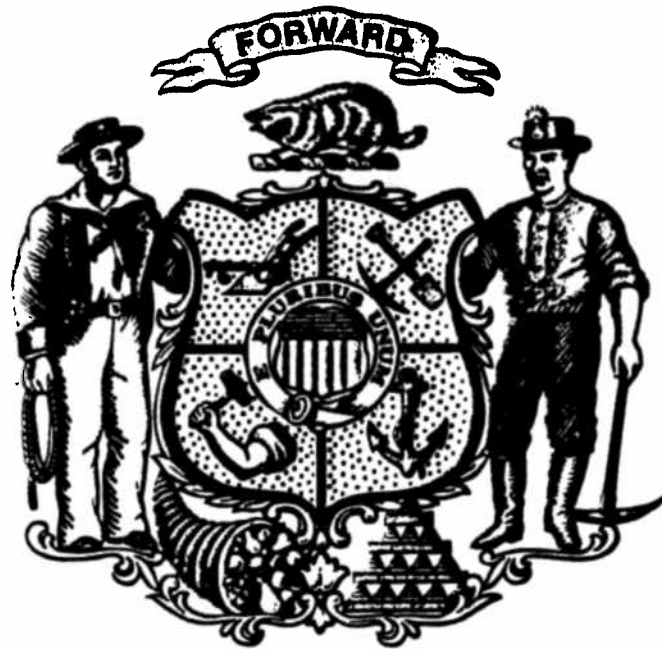
The Federation does believe that Earn-a-Buck was overused as a management tool by DNR in many deer management units in the past decade, but the solution is not to totally remove it as a deer management tool.

Some have indicated that the deer herd can be managed by just issuing more deer tags. That was the strategy that was employed by the DNR during the 1990s when I was DNR Secretary and it did not work as the deer herd exploded in the state over that time period.

In conclusion, the Federation is urging you to not support LRB1821/1 but to continue to provide strong oversight of DNR rulemaking to assure that Earn-a-Buck is used properly as a deer management tool.

Thank you on behalf of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation,

George Meyer  
Executive Director



**Gary, Tim**

---

**From:** Gary, Tim  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2011 2:48 PM  
**To:** Bauknecht, Jason; Bott, Eric; Gustafson, Andrew  
**Cc:** Inabnet, Kay; Veserat, Jeryn  
**Subject:** Bill Referral

**Importance:** High

I am expecting a bill to be sent from Rep. Tiffany to the Chief Clerk's office today and am looking to have it referred to our committee in order that I can schedule a public hearing for it before the day is over.

Can we be sure to expedite it?

**Tim Gary**

Wisconsin State Assembly

Office of **Representative Jeff Mursau**

36th Assembly District, Research Assistant

**Committee on Natural Resources, Clerk**

**Committee on Forestry, Clerk**

PO Box 8952

Madison, WI 53708-8952

(608) 266-3780

[Sign Up for E-Updates](#)



**Gary, Tim**

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**From:** Bott, Eric  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2011 2:49 PM  
**To:** Gary, Tim; Bauknecht, Jason; Gustafson, Andrew  
**Cc:** Inabnet, Kay; Vesperat, Jeryn  
**Subject:** RE: Bill Referral  
It is on its way.

---

**From:** Gary, Tim  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2011 2:48 PM  
**To:** Bauknecht, Jason; Bott, Eric; Gustafson, Andrew  
**Cc:** Inabnet, Kay; Vesperat, Jeryn  
**Subject:** Bill Referral  
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Can we be sure to expedite it?

**Tim Gary**  
Wisconsin State Assembly  
Office of **Representative Jeff Mursau**  
36th Assembly District, Research Assistant  
**Committee on Natural Resources, Clerk**  
**Committee on Forestry, Clerk**  
PO Box 8952  
Madison, WI 53708-8952  
(608) 266-3780  
[Sign Up for E-Updates](#)

## Gary, Tim

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**From:** Inabnet, Kay  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2011 3:13 PM  
**To:** Bott, Eric; Gary, Tim; Bauknecht, Jason; Gustafson, Andrew  
**Cc:** Vesperat, Jeryn  
**Subject:** RE: Bill Referral

And it has already been processed and should be in the Natural Resources Comclerk in order for you to notice a meeting. Assembly Bill 99. Thanks.

PS Tim, I probably won't deliver the bill jacket until Friday morning, but since it is already in Comclerk you are good to go.

---

**From:** Bott, Eric  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2011 2:49 PM  
**To:** Gary, Tim; Bauknecht, Jason; Gustafson, Andrew  
**Cc:** Inabnet, Kay; Vesperat, Jeryn  
**Subject:** RE: Bill Referral

It is on its way.

---

**From:** Gary, Tim  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2011 2:48 PM  
**To:** Bauknecht, Jason; Bott, Eric; Gustafson, Andrew  
**Cc:** Inabnet, Kay; Vesperat, Jeryn  
**Subject:** Bill Referral  
**Importance:** High

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Can we be sure to expedite it?

**Tim Gary**  
Wisconsin State Assembly  
Office of **Representative Jeff Mursau**  
36th Assembly District, Research Assistant  
**Committee on Natural Resources, Clerk**  
**Committee on Forestry, Clerk**  
PO Box 8952  
Madison, WI 53708-8952  
(608) 266-3780  
[Sign Up for E-Updates](#)

**Gary, Tim**

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**From:** Inabnet, Kay  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2011 3:19 PM  
**Subject:** AB 99

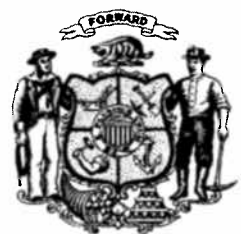
**Attachments:** 1104220a



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KB)



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



## Gary, Tim

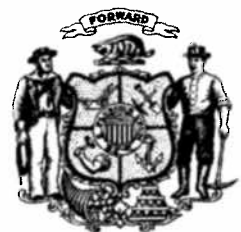
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**From:** Pat.McKee@legis.wisconsin.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2011 8:38 AM  
**To:** Gary, Tim  
**Subject:** RMS: Room Reserve Confirmation

Subject: Natural Resources Committee  
Date: 4/27/2011  
Time: 1:00 PM  
Duration: 5 hours, 0 minutes  
Location: GAR Hall  
Description: Public Hearing.



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



Gary, Tim

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**From:** Rep.Mursau  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2011 3:26 PM  
**To:** \*Legislative Assembly Republicans; \*Legislative Assembly Independents; \*Legislative Assembly Democrats; \*Legislative Senate Republicans; \*Legislative Senate Democrats; Agathen, Alisha; Augustyn, Jessie; Bahr, Dan; Battiato, Kate; Berken, Nathan; Childs, Niccole; Ehm, Katherine; Huesca, Beth; Junck, Linda; Keleher, Marylou; Konopacki, Larry; Letzing, Rachel; Lundgren, Doug; Michalak, Michelle; Mueller, Virginia; Rep.Clark; Rep.Danou; Rep.Hulse; Rep.Kleefisch; Rep.Mason; Rep.Milroy; Rep.Molepske; Rep.Mursau; Rep.Nerison; Rep.OttJ; Rep.Rivard; Rep.Severson; Rep.Steineke; Rep.Tiffany; Rep.WilliamsM; Rude, Nels; Schoenfeldt, Eileen; Scholz, AJ; Selkove, Vicky; Smith-Loomans, Sandra; Stafford, Beau; Tobias, Ben; Van de Bogert, Abigail; Van de Bogert2, Abigail; Zimmerman, Terri  
**Subject:** Committee Meeting Published  
**Importance:** High  
**Attachments:** P20110427-15446.doc; 1104220a

*Assembly*  
**PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Committee on Natural Resources**

The committee will hold a public hearing on the following items at the time specified below:

Wednesday, April 27, 2011  
1:30 PM  
417 North (GAR Hall)  
State Capitol

*The public hearing will begin following the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources executive session scheduled at 1:00 PM on April 27, 2011.*

**Assembly Bill 99**

Relating to: prohibiting the Department of Natural Resources from establishing certain restrictions on hunting antlered deer and regulating the establishment of fall open seasons for hunting deer with firearms.

By Representatives Tiffany, Mursau, Bernier, Endsley, Jacque, Kerkman, Kestell, Kleefisch, Krug, T. Larson, Litjens, Nygren, J. Ott, Petryk, Pridemore, Rivard, Severson, Spanbauer and Steineke; cosponsored by Senators Moulton, Kedzie, Cowles, S. Fitzgerald, Galloway, Harsdorf and Lasee.

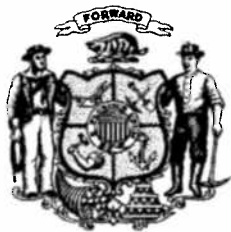
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**Representative Jeffrey Mursau**  
Chair

---



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





**Gary, Tim**

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**From:** Wilson, Curt D - DNR [Curt.Wilson@Wisconsin.gov]

**Sent:** Friday, April 22, 2011 5:17 PM

**Subject:** Assembly Bill 99

Dear Representative:

Managing the Deer herd in Wisconsin is a complicated thing. One size doesn't fit all. I work with public and private land managers and landowners across 16 counties in the Northeastern part of the state. We all want deer on the landscape - but we also need to manage and regenerate Wisconsin's valuable forests for the sustainable ecological, social, and economic benefits that they provide.

Please do not remove the tools that biologists use to manage the herd in times when the population is harming the habitat. I can't go silent on an issue this important. We can have our cake and eat it too - but we need all the tools.

Thank you for listening.

 *Curt Wilson*

Regional Forestry Leader

Northeast Region-Green Bay

Division of Forestry

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

**phone:** (920) 662-5126

**fax:** (920) 662-5159

**e-mail:** curt.wilson@wisconsin.gov

Cell Phone: (920) 366-1047

## Gary, Tim

---

**From:** Rep.Mursau  
**Sent:** Friday, April 22, 2011 7:23 PM  
**To:** Moroney, Matt S - DNR  
**Cc:** DeLong, Paul J - DNR  
**Subject:** FW: Assembly Bill 99

Matt,

I expect teachers to lobby legislators from their work email accounts, not DNR foresters.

We obviously understand Curt's scientific perspective, especially as the affect deer browsing has on regeneration and its impact on the forest managers and the forest products industry. We welcome his input.

However, in my decade of experience, I have seen other State employees (like DNR wardens) understand how to properly communicate to legislators and Curt should follow suit by using his personal time, email and computer resources to do so as well. Otherwise he does himself and (rule-following) State employees a disservice.

We have seen what happens when a clear line is not made in this activity on obvious cases: a culture in the late 1990s or early 2000s had Rhinelander DNR personnel actively using State resources to help slow/defeat the growth of ATV trails in Oneida or Vilas Counties.

Will the new line authority discussed earlier this year in Senator Kedzie's office give Paul DeLong an opportunity to address this in a reasonable and effective way? I hope an ounce of prevention now would save a pound of cure later.

Tim Gary  
Office of Rep. Jeff Mursau  
Assembly Committee on Natural Resources, Chair Assembly Committee on Forestry, Chair

Cc: Paul DeLong

-----Original Message-----

From: Wilson, Curt D - DNR [mailto:Curt.Wilson@Wisconsin.gov]  
Sent: Fri 4/22/2011 5:17 PM  
Subject: Assembly Bill 99

Dear Representative:

Managing the Deer herd in Wisconsin is a complicated thing. One size doesn't fit all. I work with public and private land managers and landowners across 16 counties in the Northeastern part of the state. We all want deer on the landscape - but we also need to manage and regenerate Wisconsin's valuable forests for the sustainable ecological, social, and economic benefits that they provide.

Please do not remove the tools that biologists use to manage the herd in times when the population is harming the habitat. I can't go silent on an issue this important. We can have our cake and eat it too - but we need all the tools.

Thank you for listening.

\* Curt Wilson  
Regional Forestry Leader  
Northeast Region-Green Bay  
Division of Forestry  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
phone: (920) 662-5126  
fax: (920) 662-5159  
e-mail: curt.wilson@wisconsin.gov  
Cell Phone: (920) 366-1047

**Gary, Tim**

---

**From:** Moroney, Matt S - DNR [Matt.Moroney@wisconsin.gov]  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 24, 2011 4:39 PM  
**To:** Rep.Mursau  
**Cc:** DeLong, Paul J - DNR  
**Subject:** RE: Assembly Bill 99

Hey Tim,

We agree with you. We have some work to do to change the culture. Thanks for forwarding this, we will be disciplining the individual for not following work rules.

Thanks,

Matt

---

**From:** Rep.Mursau [Rep.Mursau@legis.wisconsin.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 22, 2011 7:22 PM  
**To:** Moroney, Matt S - DNR  
**Cc:** DeLong, Paul J - DNR  
**Subject:** FW: Assembly Bill 99

Matt,

I expect teachers to lobby legislators from their work email accounts, not DNR foresters.

We obviously understand Curt's scientific perspective, especially as the affect deer browsing has on regeneration and its impact on the forest managers and the forest products industry. We welcome his input.

However, in my decade of experience, I have seen other State employees (like DNR wardens) understand how to properly communicate to legislators and Curt should follow suit by using his personal time, email and computer resources to do so as well. Otherwise he does himself and (rule-following) State employees a disservice.

We have seen what happens when a clear line is not made in this activity on obvious cases: a culture in the late 1990s or early 2000s had Rhinelander DNR personnel actively using State resources to help slow/defeat the growth of ATV trails in Oneida or Vilas Counties.

Will the new line authority discussed earlier this year in Senator Kedzie's office give Paul DeLong an opportunity to address this in a reasonable and effective way? I hope an ounce of prevention now would save a pound of cure later.

Tim Gary  
 Office of Rep. Jeff Mursau  
 Assembly Committee on Natural Resources, Chair  
 Assembly Committee on Forestry, Chair

Cc: Paul DeLong

-----Original Message-----  
**From:** Wilson, Curt D - DNR [mailto:Curt.Wilson@Wisconsin.gov]  
**Sent:** Fri 4/22/2011 5:17 PM

4/29/2011

Subject: Assembly Bill 99

Dear Representative:

Managing the Deer herd in Wisconsin is a complicated thing. One size doesn't fit all. I work with public and private land managers and landowners across 16 counties in the Northeastern part of the state. We all want deer on the landscape - but we also need to manage and regenerate Wisconsin's valuable forests for the sustainable ecological, social, and economic benefits that they provide.

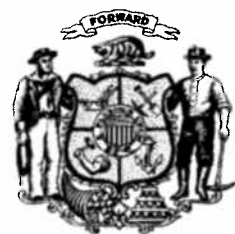
Please do not remove the tools that biologists use to manage the herd in times when the population is harming the habitat. I can't go silent on an issue this important. We can have our cake and eat it too - but we need all the tools.

Thank you for listening.

\* Curt Wilson  
Regional Forestry Leader  
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Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
phone: (920) 662-5126  
fax: (920) 662-5159  
e-mail: [curt.wilson@wisconsin.gov](mailto:curt.wilson@wisconsin.gov)  
Cell Phone: (920) 366-1047



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



**Gary, Tim**

---

**From:** Gregory Wurz [maawurz@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 22, 2011 8:37 AM  
**To:** Rep.Mursau; Rep.Rivard; Rep.WilliamsM; Rep.Kleefisch; Rep.Nerison; Rep.OttJ; Rep.Severson;  
Rep.Steineke; Rep.Tiffany; Rep.Mason; Rep.Molepske; Rep.Danou; Rep.Clark; Rep.Milroy;  
Rep.Hulsey; Sen.Fitzgerald; Rep.Jorgensen  
**Cc:** Greg Wurz  
**Subject:** Support for Assembly Bill 99  
**Attachments:** SCAN0001.JPG; Hunting Bill.pdf; 2009\_Results\_Master.pdf; WBH Letter.pdf

Please see attached documents. If you are unable to open these documents, please let me know and I'll resend them under a different format.

Thank you:  
Greg Wurz

Greg Wurz  
629 Topeka Drive  
Lake Mills, WI 53551  
(608) 780-9794  
maawurz@yahoo.com



Friday, April 22, 2011

Wisconsin State Capital  
C/O: Natural Resource Committee - Assembly  
Room 18 North  
P.O. Box 8953  
Madison, WI 53708

**SUBJECT:** I strongly support Assembly Bill 99

Dear Natural Resource Committee:

For many years the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) has mismanaged the state's free roaming whitetail deer population through unpopular programs such as: Earn-A-Buck, early Herd Control seasons, and the department's so called Chronic Wasting Disease management plan.\*

Many deer hunters have given up the sport of whitetail deer hunting. The reason for such a decline in deer hunter numbers is because many deer hunters are not seeing any whitetail deer. Another reason for such a decline in deer hunter numbers is because of the confusing deer hunting regulations, and all the extended deer hunting seasons.

During the fall many people who enjoy the outdoors (non-deer hunters) wear blaze orange from early October to late January. They do this so they will not be mistaken for a whitetail deer. There are many other people who are simply too afraid to go out into the outdoors because they are so confused about the deer hunting regulations and don't want to get shot.

That is why I respectfully ask that you please support Assembly Bill 99. Through this bill the WDNR will be limited to what they can do in creating deer hunting regulations and deer hunting seasons. This bill will also help deer hunters and non-deer hunters understand the deer hunting regulations set forth by the WDNR, keeping everyone safe. More importantly this bill will give the whitetail deer the much needed boost they need to repopulate and make deer hunting enjoyable once again.

Respectfully Yours:

  
Greg Wurz

\* Please see attachment: 2009\_Results\_Master.pdf (Page 2 - Question: 64)

2009 DNR Spring Rule Hearings - WCC County Meetings  
 Summary of Results  
 Statewide by Question

4:17 PM 04/14/2009

Question	Question Description	Votes Yes	Votes No	Majority	Counties Approving	Counties Rejecting	Counties Tie vote	Counties Not Voting
<b>2009 STATEWIDE ATTENDANCE</b>								
		7939						
1	Background checks for angler education programs Part 1	5960	844	Yes	72	0	0	0
2	Background checks for angler education programs Part 2	5381	1201	Yes	72	0	0	0
3	Lake Winnebago walleye/ sauger bag limit	4632	1071	Yes	72	0	0	0
4	Minnows/ VHS rules correction	5260	781	Yes	72	0	0	0
5	Clarifying rules re: use of remote controlled devices for fishing	5094	1165	Yes	72	0	0	0
6	Eliminate barbless hooks restriction during early trout season	3379	3032	Yes	43	27	2	0
7	Crayfish harvest license requirements	3552	2701	Yes	55	16	1	0
8	Provide clarification for sloughs, bayous and flowages Part 1	4242	1179	Yes	72	0	0	0
9	Provide clarification for sloughs, bayous and flowages Part 2	4180	1113	Yes	71	1	0	0
10	Mussel harvest	3036	2044	Yes	57	14	1	0
11	Beaver Dam Lake (Barron County) walleye regulations	3263	1825	Yes	67	4	1	0
12	Long Lake (Vilas County) walleye regulations	3245	1966	Yes	63	9	0	0
13	Dead Pike Lake (Vilas County) walleye regulations	3156	1930	Yes	64	7	1	0
14	Walleye Length Limits on Upper Clam (Ashland & Iron counties)	2633	1132	Yes	67	4	1	0
15	Bayfield County trout lakes	2432	994	Yes	68	3	1	0
16	Twenty-six Lake bass regulation change	2414	1006	Yes	69	3	0	0
17	Anderson Lake trout regulations	2139	1011	Yes	68	2	2	0
18	Silver Lake northern pike regulations	1982	1411	Yes	53	18	1	0
19	Burrows lake bass regulations	1862	1390	Yes	51	18	3	0
20	Wisconsin River walleye regulation	3010	738	Yes	70	1	1	0
21	Big Round Lake walleye regulations	2264	1070	Yes	62	9	1	0
22	Manley Creek trout regulations	1986	1085	Yes	60	10	2	0
23	Big Sand Lake and Long Lakes muskellunge regulations	2296	1709	Yes	52	18	2	0
24	Kentuck Lake muskellunge regulation	2228	1733	Yes	46	22	4	0
25	White Sand Lake walleye regulation	2259	1219	Yes	64	6	2	0
26	Twin Lakes Chain walleye regulations	2094	1411	Yes	57	15	0	0
27	Urban pond proposals	2378	840	Yes	66	5	1	0
28	Clarify the definition of "open water hunting" for waterfowl	3133	2424	Yes	54	17	1	0
29	Extend the fall turkey season	4607	2142	Yes	62	10	0	0
30	Registration of wild turkeys	5743	1051	Yes	72	0	0	0
31	Modify the bobcat hunting and trapping seasons Part 1	3447	1851	Yes	62	10	0	0
32	Modify the bobcat hunting and trapping seasons Part 2	3061	2071	Yes	58	12	2	0



2009 DNR Spring Rule Hearings - WCC County Meetings  
 Summary of Results  
 Statewide by Question

4:17 PM 04/14/2009

Question	Question Description	Votes Yes	Votes No	Majority	Counties Approving	Counties Rejecting	Counties Tie vote	Counties Not Voting
33	Clarify the definition of legal firearm types for hunting	3956	2156	Yes	63	8	1	0
34	Issuance of left-over turkey hunting permits	3639	2753	Yes	57	14	1	0
35	Turkey hunting by disabled permit holders Part 1	4290	1918	Yes	70	0	2	0
36	Turkey hunting by disabled permit holders Part 2	4745	1426	Yes	72	0	0	0
37	Require the registration of harvested sharp-tailed grouse	2500	3208	No	20	50	2	0
38	Special waterfowl hunting regulations at Mead - 1PM	2107	2046	Yes	36	33	3	0
39	Special waterfowl hunting regulations at Mead - Closed Prior to Duck Season	2086	2006	Yes	36	32	4	0
40	Special waterfowl hunting regulations at Mead - Townline/Berkhahn	2280	1484	Yes	58	9	5	0
41	Special waterfowl hunting regulations at Mead - Rice Lake/Pool 10	2269	1505	Yes	57	12	3	0
42	Allow the use of dogs for turkey hunting statewide during the fall season	3168	3398	No	33	38	1	0
43	Allow the harvest hen pheasants at Sand Creek Fishery Area, Monroe County	2629	1200	Yes	67	4	1	0
44	Allow the use of rifles for firearm deer hunting in Dunn County	3532	836	Yes	71	0	1	0
45	Eliminate the Nelson-Trevino Mississippi River closed area in Buffalo County	2969	1068	Yes	66	5	1	0
46	Allow the use of rifles for firearm deer hunting in Shawano County	3667	959	Yes	71	0	1	0
47	Allow firearm deer hunting at Whitefish Dunes state park, Door County	3464	667	Yes	72	0	0	0
48	Establish antlerless-only deer seasons Wildcat Mountain State Park	1949	1922	Yes	34	32	6	0
49	Hunting seasons at Cadiz Spring State Park and Recreation Area	2805	786	Yes	71	1	0	0
50	Eliminate the late season archery deer hunt at Brunet Island State Park	1401	2965	No	4	68	0	0
51	Reduce the size of Dike 17 waterfowl refuge, Jackson County	2625	982	Yes	68	2	2	0
52	Reduce the size of Vernon Marsh waterfowl refuge	3039	622	Yes	72	0	0	0
53	1:00 p.m. closure of migratory bird hunting, Lake Mills Wildlife Area	1649	1633	Yes	39	31	2	0
54	Allow firearm deer hunting at Potawatomi state park, Door County	3622	622	Yes	72	0	0	0
55	Allow rifles for deer hunting on all of Hartman Creek State Park	3260	926	Yes	71	0	1	0
56	Youth Conservation Congress	4377	1637	Yes	69	3	0	0
57	An EAB Alternative	1126	5472	No	0	71	1	0
58	Turkey Hunting with Dogs Regulations	2158	3988	No	5	66	1	0
59	Buck Fawn Identification Information	5174	1369	Yes	71	1	0	0
60	Later Muzzleloader Deer Seasons - 10 day	2546	4174	No	10	61	1	0
61	Later Muzzleloader Deer Seasons - 16 day	2432	4440	No	12	60	0	0
62	Deer Registration Information	5772	962	Yes	71	1	0	0
63	Private Land-only, Antlerless-only Deer Season	2570	3933	No	12	58	2	0
64	Eliminate Earn-A-Buck (EAB) and October Antlerless Deer Hunts	5513	1321	Yes	72	0	0	0
65	Maximum of Two Consecutive Years Earn-a-Buck	5112	1325	Yes	72	0	0	0

2009 DNR Spring Rule Hearings - WCC County Meetings  
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 Statewide by Question

4:17 PM 04/14/2009

Question	Question Description	Votes Yes	Votes No	Majority	Counties Approving	Counties Rejecting	Counties The vote	Counties Not Voting
66	Allow Bow Hunting During the 9-Day Deer Gun Season	4659	2270	Yes	69	2	1	0
67	Magnifying Scopes on Muzzleloaders	4049	2606	Yes	62	9	1	0
68	Prohibit the Shooting of Antlered Deer in the CWD Zone - Shooting Permits	3602	1959	Yes	66	5	1	0
69	Remove Woodchucks from the List of Protected Species	5532	760	Yes	72	0	0	0
70	Treestands on State Lands	4624	2103	Yes	69	3	0	0
71	Statewide Coyote Hunting Season Year Round	5870	582	Yes	72	0	0	0
72	Extend Trap Check Times	3206	1793	Yes	65	6	1	0
73	Bobcat Permit Application Fee Increase	2843	2740	Yes	42	30	0	0
74	Allow Trappers to Use Bait and Lures Prior to the Trapping Season	3082	2309	Yes	53	18	1	0
75	Restrict Lake Michigan Commercial Fishing Harvest in Select Grids	3850	574	Yes	72	0	0	0
76	Allow Elderly Persons the Use of All Terrain Vehicles while Hunting	4421	1966	Yes	69	3	0	0
77	Change in the Minimum Age for Sturgeon Spearing	4081	1339	Yes	70	2	0	0
78	Prohibit Legis. Re: Wildlife and Fisheries w/o Hearings/DNR input	5379	970	Yes	72	0	0	0
79	Winter Free Fishing Weekend	5519	742	Yes	72	0	0	0
80	Include 16 & 17 Year Olds in the Youth Hunts	3294	3003	Yes	42	26	4	0
81	Increased Youth Opportunity	5677	894	Yes	72	0	0	0
82	Day Old Chick Program Requirements	3365	1120	Yes	70	1	1	0
83	Atlatl and Dart - Small Game	3053	2455	Yes	46	23	3	0
84	Combine Pheasant and Turkey Stamps	3008	2943	Yes	41	30	1	0
85	Increased Size Limit on Muskellunge, Green Bay and Related Waters	2480	2260	Yes	38	32	2	0
86	Creating a Size Limit on Northern Pike in the Waters of Green Bay	2641	1736	Yes	52	17	3	0
87	The Great Northwest Bass Restoration Initiative	2316	1354	Yes	62	9	1	0
88	Size Limit on Bass in Washburn County	2481	1134	Yes	65	7	0	0
89	Chippewa Flowage Winter Bag Limit on Crappie	2745	1062	Yes	69	0	3	0
90	Manage Smallmouth and Largemouth Bass as Separate Species	3242	1448	Yes	68	4	0	0
91	Walleye Daily Bag Limit Change, Petenwell and Castle Rock Flowages	2036	1835	Yes	41	30	1	0

# Wisconsin Bowhunters Association

William Friede Complex 17 E Third Street  
PO Box 240 Clintonville, WI 54929 ph: (715) 823-4670 Fax: (715) 823-1385  
[office@wisconsinbowhunters.org](mailto:office@wisconsinbowhunters.org) [www.wisconsinbowhunters.org](http://www.wisconsinbowhunters.org)



PROMOTE, PROTECT, PRESERVE

For immediate release

April 18, 2011

## **Bowhunters support proposed legislation returning stability and tradition to Wisconsin deer hunting**

Senator Moulton and Representative Tiffany and any additional co-sponsors of this bill should be applauded for their effort to protect Wisconsin's deer hunting heritage while still providing the DNR the ability to manage our deer herd.

"It is very encouraging that these legislators understand the situation and are taking action to stabilize hunting traditions that we can depend on and pass on to younger hunters" said Mike Brust, President of Wisconsin Bowhunters Association.

Brust noted that although the DNR meant well in implementing changes over the last several years, they sometimes lost sight of the fact that all the programs in the world don't actually manage deer - hunters do.

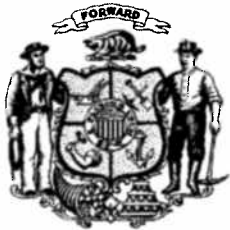
"Bowhunters will welcome the permanent elimination of the early herd control hunts, Earn-A-Buck and threats to change the dates of the gun season. With consistent seasons and regulations, all hunters will be able to plan ahead and re-establish many of the traditions that have been a part of Wisconsin deer hunting for generations" Brust said. "We can enjoy hunting again without having to carry around a regulations book and worry about how things might change again next year".

Founded in 1941, The Wisconsin Bowhunters Association is the nation's oldest and largest state bowhunting organization, dedicated to promoting, protecting and preserving the sport of hunting with a bow and arrow. WBH considers the wild deer herd to be one of Wisconsin's most valuable natural resources.

###



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



**Gary, Tim**

**From:** Rep.Mursau  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2011 9:55 AM  
**To:** 'Bronson Smith'  
**Subject:** RE:  
 Bronson,

- A) AB 99 is being spearheaded by Rep. Tom Tiffany while concealed carry is being spearheaded by Rep. Mursau
- B) The hunting season rules for fall 2011 need to be set by the end of May, and since the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources can only meet on certain days, we need to work backwards from May 31 to determine actions might be immediately necessary, including public hearings
- C) The Natural Resources Board could adopt the DNR's proposed rules for the fall 2011 deer season and make AB 99 a potentially moot point
- D) Rep. Mursau is IN THE MIDDLE of writing concealed carry legislation and can address more than one policy item at a time

Representative Mursau will introduce concealed carry legislation when he has the legal language as right as possible. Every mistake in a bill slows the legislative process. Any mistakes that get through the legislative process will be a trial lawyer's or anti-self-protection-politician's dream come true. It can be done fast or it can be done correctly, but it won't be done both ways. We have been and continue moving forward on concealed carry legislation as swiftly as possible and with purpose. You will see a bill in the very near future.

**Tim Gary**

Wisconsin State Assembly  
 Office of Representative Jeff Mursau  
 36th Assembly District, Research Assistant  
 Committee on Natural Resources, Clerk  
 Committee on Forestry, Clerk  
 PO Box 8952  
 Madison, WI 53708-8952  
 (608) 266-3780  
[Sign Up for E-Updates](#)

**From:** Bronson Smith [mailto:superiorsoundent@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 22, 2011 8:38 AM  
**To:** Rep.Mursau  
**Subject:**

Greetings, Senators & Assembly people

I would respectfully like an explanation as to why Deer hunting takes priori  
 If you can introduce this type of legislation, then you can introduce Conceale  
 That only Budget items were going to be dealt with, THEN Concealed carry would

Thank you,

Bronson Smith  
 1525 Smith Street  
 Green Bay, WI 54302  
 920-337-6166

ASSEMBLY BILL 99

An Act  
 to create 29.016 of the statutes; relating to: prohibiting the  
 Department of Natural Resources from establishing certain restrictions  
 on hunting antlered deer and regulating the establishment of fall open  
 seasons for hunting deer with firearms. (FE)  
 2011

04-22. A. Introduced by Representatives Tiffany, Mursau, Bernier,  
 Endsley, Jacque, Kerkman, Kestell, Kleefisch, Krug, T.  
 Larson, Litjens, Nygren, J. Ott, Petryk, Pridemore,  
 Rivard, Severson, Spanbauer and Steineke; cosponsored by  
 Senators Moulton, Kedzie, Cowles, S. Fitzgerald,  
 Galloway, Harsdorf and Lasee.

04-22. A. Read first time and referred to committee on Natural

4/29/2011

Resources.

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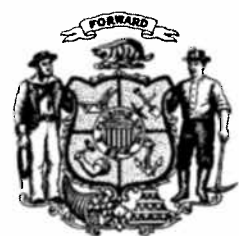
Mr. Bronson Smith - Owner/DJ  
920-337-6166

EMAIL: [Bronson@superiorsoundent.com](mailto:Bronson@superiorsoundent.com)  
WEB: [www.superiorsoundent.com](http://www.superiorsoundent.com)

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WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



**Gary, Tim**

---

**From:** Rep.Mursau

**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2011 3:40 PM

**To:** Kluesner, Elizabeth M - DNR; Heinen, Paul H - DNR; Gunderson, Scott L - DNR

**Subject:** Committee Hearing

Elizabeth, Paul and Scott,

I respectfully request the DNR provide staff to attend and testify for informational purposes only regarding 2011 Assembly Bill 99 regarding deer hunting.

In particular, I am seeking experts in deer management and big game management that can bring some expertise regarding the deer herd population and deer hunter participation before and after implementation of T-zones, mentored hunting, earn-a-buck and December gun hunts north of Highway 8.

**Representative Jeff Mursau**

36th Assembly District

**Committee on Natural Resources**, Chair

**Committee on Forestry**, Chair

PO Box 8952

Madison, WI 53708-8952

(608) 266-3780

[Sign Up for E-Updates](#)



**Gary, Tim**

---

**From:** Heinen, Paul H - DNR [Paul.Heinen@Wisconsin.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2011 3:49 PM  
**To:** Rep.Mursau; Kluesner, Elizabeth M - DNR; Gunderson, Scott L - DNR; Thiede, Kurt A - DNR  
**Subject:** Re: Committee Hearing

Gundy  
Hauge to testify? With Kurt?

Paul  
Paul Heinen  
266-2120

---

**From:** Rep.Mursau <Rep.Mursau@legis.wisconsin.gov>  
**To:** Kluesner, Elizabeth M - DNR; Heinen, Paul H - DNR; Gunderson, Scott L - DNR  
**Sent:** Mon Apr 25 15:40:01 2011  
**Subject:** Committee Hearing

Elizabeth, Paul and Scott,

I respectfully request the DNR provide staff to attend and testify for informational purposes only regarding 2011 Assembly Bill 99 regarding deer hunting.

In particular, I am seeking experts in deer management and big game management that can bring some expertise regarding the deer herd population and deer hunter participation before and after implementation of T-zones, mentored hunting, earn-a-buck and December gun hunts north of Highway 8.

**Representative Jeff Mursau**  
36th Assembly District  
**Committee on Natural Resources, Chair**  
**Committee on Forestry, Chair**  
PO Box 8952  
Madison, WI 53708-8952  
(608) 266-3780  
[Sign Up for E-Updates](#)

4/29/2011

Gary, Tim

---

**From:** Rep.Clark  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2011 4:20 PM  
**To:** Rep.Mursau  
**Cc:** Rep.Mason; Rep.Molepske; Rep.Milroy; Rep.Danou; Rep.Hulsey; Rep.Rivard; Rep.Severson; Rep.Kleefisch;  
Rep.WilliamsM; Rep.Nerison; Rep.OttJ; Rep.Steineke; Rep.Tiffany; Stepp, Cathy L - DNR; Moroney, Matt S -  
DNR  
**Subject:** Request for DNR Specialists at Wednesday's Public Hearing  
Chairman Mursau -

We are requesting the Department of Natural Resources provide staff specialists to testify about the impact of Assembly Bill 99 at the public hearing on Wednesday this week.

Having agency specialists available to discuss current deer populations statewide, the department's ability to meet deer management goals and the impact of Wisconsin's deer herd on our forest resource and our forest products industry will be helpful for the committee.

As you know, the effective management of Wisconsin's Whitetail deer herd is not only crucial for our forestry industry, but also for our tourism industry as we contain the spread of CWD.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to the hearing.

Sincerely,



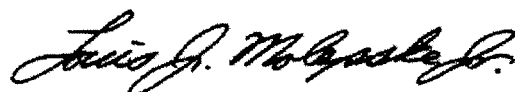
FRED CLARK  
42<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District



BRETT HULSEY  
77<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



NICK MILROY  
73<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District



LOUIS MOLEPSKE  
71<sup>st</sup> Assembly District

cc: Assembly Natural Resources Committee Members  
DNR Secretary Cathy Stepp  
DNR Deputy Secretary Matt Moroney

**Gary, Tim**

---

**From:** Gunderson, Scott L - DNR [ScottL1.Gunderson@wisconsin.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2011 4:52 PM  
**To:** Heinen, Paul H - DNR; Rep.Mursau; Kluesner, Elizabeth M - DNR; Thiede, Kurt A - DNR  
**Subject:** RE: Committee Hearing

Yes, Kurt & Tom.

Sent from my U.S. Cellular® Windows® phone.

---

**From:** Heinen, Paul H - DNR <Paul.Heinen@Wisconsin.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2011 3:49 PM  
**To:** Rep.Mursau - LEGIS <Rep.Mursau@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Kluesner, Elizabeth M - DNR <Elizabeth.Kluesner@wisconsin.gov>; Gunderson, Scott L - DNR <ScottL1.Gunderson@wisconsin.gov>; Thiede, Kurt A - DNR <Kurt.Thiede@Wisconsin.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Committee Hearing

Gundy  
Hauge to testify? With Kurt?

Paul  
Paul Heinen  
266-2120

---

**From:** Rep.Mursau <Rep.Mursau@legis.wisconsin.gov>  
**To:** Kluesner, Elizabeth M - DNR; Heinen, Paul H - DNR; Gunderson, Scott L - DNR  
**Sent:** Mon Apr 25 15:40:01 2011  
**Subject:** Committee Hearing

Elizabeth, Paul and Scott,

I respectfully request the DNR provide staff to attend and testify for informational purposes only regarding 2011 Assembly Bill 99 regarding deer hunting.

In particular, I am seeking experts in deer management and big game management that can bring some expertise regarding the deer herd population and deer hunter participation before and after implementation of T-zones, mentored hunting, earn-a-buck and December gun hunts north of Highway 8.

**Representative Jeff Mursau**  
36th Assembly District  
**Committee on Natural Resources, Chair**  
**Committee on Forestry, Chair**  
PO Box 8952  
Madison, WI 53708-8952  
(608) 266-3780  
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4/29/2011

**Gary, Tim**

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**From:** Heinen, Paul H - DNR [Paul.Heinen@Wisconsin.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2011 8:08 AM  
**To:** Rep.Mursau  
**Subject:** RE: Committee Hearing

Will do...see you tomorrow.  
Thanks for the invite.  
Paul

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**From:** Rep.Mursau [mailto:Rep.Mursau@legis.wisconsin.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2011 03:40 PM  
**To:** Kluesner, Elizabeth M - DNR; Heinen, Paul H - DNR; Gunderson, Scott L - DNR  
**Subject:** Committee Hearing

Elizabeth, Paul and Scott,

I respectfully request the DNR provide staff to attend and testify for informational purposes only regarding 2011 Assembly Bill 99 regarding deer hunting.

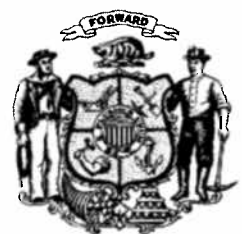
In particular, I am seeking experts in deer management and big game management that can bring some expertise regarding the deer herd population and deer hunter participation before and after implementation of T-zones, mentored hunting, earn-a-buck and December gun hunts north of Highway 8.

**Representative Jeff Mursau**  
36th Assembly District  
**Committee on Natural Resources**, Chair  
**Committee on Forestry**, Chair  
PO Box 8952  
Madison, WI 53708-8952  
(608) 266-3780  
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WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



**Gary, Tim**

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**From:** Gunnar Bergersen [Gunnar@bergco.us]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2011 11:57 AM  
**To:** Gary, Tim  
**Subject:** Statement from Nicolet Hardwoods AB-99  
**Attachments:** Earn a buck.doc

Good Morning Tim:

Attached is a statement on AB-99 from Nicolet Hardwoods for distribution to committee members.

-Gunnar

**Gunnar Bergersen** Please update address to [Gunnar@Bergco.us](mailto:Gunnar@Bergco.us)

G. Bergersen Co.  
Public Advocacy  
Madison, Wisconsin  
608-515-8388  
608-255-7211 Cell

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4/29/2011

**Nicolet Hardwoods Corporation**  
**Laona, WI**

April 27, 2011

TO: Natural Resources Committee

FR: Steve Guthrie, Hardwoods Manager

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**From the industrial forestry perspective, we observe how little new tree growth survives high populations of deer browsing particularly on hardwood stands.**

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Nicolet Hardwoods manages 29,600 acres of forestland that is open to the public for hunting, fishing, and other recreation allowed under the MFL. We employ sixty people in Wisconsin, and support three outside jobs for each employee. That would be a total of 240 people deriving most if not all of their livelihood from Nicolet Hardwood's business.

At the time of European settlement there were very few deer. The forests were mature, providing less forage, and the deer were prey to wolf and bear. The heavy cutting and fires at the turn of the last century created new tree growth which supported a growing deer herd and wolves were eliminated during the same period. In the last twenty five years hunters, have witness unprecedented high deer populations – and have been spoiled.

State and federal lands are now being routinely managed for old growth, park like conditions, which do not support many deer. As a result, the number of doe permits issued has dropped from the high numbers we were experiencing just a few years ago. Some hunters are using this fact to criticize DNR's management of the herd, when in reality we are returning to average population levels.

- In the north we need those over mature stands to be sustainably harvested to regenerate more timber and provide the better foraging habitat for wildlife populations.
- In the south, we need the herd thinned so that we can regenerate desirable hardwood species.

- Expand the season to two weeks, like Michigan to provide a better quality hunt and spread out the hunters to avoid the crush of people in the woods opening weekend.

We believe the DNR needs the tools to manage deer populations. Restricting the DNR by law isn't the right thing to do. As hunters ourselves, we are not fans of earn a buck. However, as industrial forest land managers we support the need for the DNR to have the tools it needs to best manage our forests including October doe hunts in those areas where deer populations are too high.

