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**WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
AMENDMENT MEMO**

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**2009 Senate Bill 167**

**Senate  
Amendments 1, 2, 3, and 4**

*Memo published:* June 12, 2009

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**Current law** sets the minimum age for hunting at 12 years of age. A person under the age of 12 may possess a firearm only if enrolled in a hunter's education class, is carrying the firearm to or from the class, cased, unloaded, and under the supervision of a parent or guardian, or is handling or operating the firearm during the class under supervision of the instructor.

**Senate Bill 167**, among other things, creates an exception from the restriction on the possession and control of a firearm by a person under age 12 if he or she is engaged in target practice and is accompanied by a parent or guardian, or accompanied by a person who is age 18 or over and designated by the parent or guardian. **Senate Amendment 3** specifies that "target practice" includes trap shooting or a similar sport shooting activity regardless of whether the activity involves shooting at a fixed or moving target.

**Senate Bill 167**, among other things, creates a hunting mentorship program. One requirement under this program is that the mentor and the mentee may jointly have only one firearm, or if hunting with a crossbow, only one crossbow, in their possession or control while hunting. **Senate Amendment 2** adds the requirement that the mentor and mentee may jointly have only one bow in their possession or control while hunting.

**Senate Bill 167**, if enacted, would take effect on the first day after the date of publication. **Senate Amendment 1** provides that the bill, if enacted, would take effect on September 1, 2009.

**Senate Bill 167** also provides for the same reduced fees for 10- and 11-year old hunters as are provided for 12- to 17-year olds for small game, deer, and archery licenses and sports and conservation patron approvals. **Senate Amendment 4** would further reduce fees for 10- and 11-year olds, setting the fee for most individual hunting approvals at \$4.25.

**Legislative History**

On May 20, 2009, Senate Amendments 1, 2, and 3 were offered by Senator Holperin. On May 21, 2009, the Senate Committee on Transportation, Tourism, Forestry, and Natural Resources recommended adoption of Senate Amendment 1 on a vote of Ayes, 6; Noes, 1; Senate Amendment 2 on a vote of Ayes, 4; Noes, 3; and Senate Amendment 3 on a vote of Ayes, 6, Noes, 1. The committee recommended passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 6; Noes, 1.

On June 8, 2009, Senate Amendment 4 was offered by Senator Holperin. On June 9, 2009, the Senate adopted Senate Amendments 1-4 by voice vote and passed Senate Bill 167, as amended, by a vote of Ayes, 27; Noes, 6.

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