



PATRICK TESTIN

STATE SENATOR

DATE: January 16th, 2018

RE: **Testimony on 2017 Senate Bill 633**

TO: The Senate Committee on Sporting Heritage, Mining and Forestry

FROM: Senator Patrick Testin

Thank you Chairman Tiffany and members of the Senate Committee on Sporting Heritage, Mining and Forestry for accepting my testimony on Senate Bill 633, which makes changes to dog tag requirements for hunters utilizing a dog to hunt a bear or wolf.

Wisconsin is a state known for its rich sporting heritage, and hunting is something that is ingrained as a tradition for many Wisconsinites. Senate Bill 633 is a piece of legislation aimed at updating outdated and unnecessary statutory requirements imposed on select groups of hunters, but not on the whole hunting population.

Currently, dog owners and handlers are required to carry their dog license and rabies vaccination tags on their person whilst hunting a bear or wolf. However; hunting dogs used for hunting other species like pheasants, raccoons, and waterfowl, are not subject to this requirement.

This is a simple and straightforward piece of legislation that eliminates the requirement for sportsmen hunting bears or wolves to carry these dog tags while hunting or engaging in hunting activities. It does not remove any vaccination or licensure requirements for these hunting dogs, and merely removes the burdensome requirement to constantly keep these tags on their person while hunting.

This bill does away with an extra constraint on bear and wolf hunters and is a simple way to align state law requirements on dog tags for hunters utilizing hunting dogs.

Thank you again Chairman and members of the committee for accepting my testimony today and for your consideration of Senate Bill 633.