



State of Wisconsin
2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

LRB-3723/1
EHS:jld

2017 ASSEMBLY BILL 416

June 29, 2017 - Introduced by Representatives EDMING, KRUG, KULP, MURSAU, QUINN, RIPP, SWEARINGEN, TITTL and TUSLER, cosponsored by Senators PETROWSKI, MARKLEIN, OLSEN, RISSER and WANGGAARD. Referred to Committee on Environment and Forestry.

AUTHORS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 29.983 (1) (a); and *to create* 29.983 (1) (c), 29.983 (1) (cg) and
2 29.983 (1) (cr) of the statutes; **relating to:** a higher wild animal protection
3 surcharge for the unlawful taking of deer.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill increases the wild animal protection surcharge that a court may impose when a person unlawfully hunts, snares, possesses, or controls a deer with large antlers.

Under current law, if a court imposes a fine or forfeiture for the unlawful killing, wounding, catching, taking, trapping, or possession of certain wild animals, the court may impose a wild animal protection surcharge. The statute specifies the amount of the surcharge allowed for each type of wild animal.

This bill allows a court to impose a higher wild animal protection surcharge when it imposes a fine or forfeiture for the unlawful hunting, snaring, possession, or control of a deer with antlers of a certain size. The bill requires the Department of Natural Resources to establish a method for measuring antler size, and specifies the amount of the surcharge for different sizes of antlers. If both a regular and a higher wild animal protection surcharge are allowed, the bill requires a court to impose the higher surcharge.

ASSEMBLY BILL 416

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 29.983 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 29.983 (1) (a) If a court imposes a fine or forfeiture for a violation of a provision
3 of this chapter or an order issued under this chapter for the unlawful killing,
4 wounding, catching, taking, trapping, or possession of a wild animal specified in par.
5 (b), or any part of such a wild animal, the court may impose a wild animal protection
6 surcharge under ch. 814 that equals the amount specified for the wild animal under
7 par. (b), except as provided in par. (c).

8 **SECTION 2.** 29.983 (1) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

9 29.983 (1) (c) If a court imposes a fine for a violation of s. 29.971 (11) and the
10 affected deer has antlers of a size specified in par. (cg), the court shall impose a wild
11 animal protection surcharge under ch. 814 that equals the amount specified in par.
12 (cg) for a deer with that size of antlers. If a wild animal protection surcharge under
13 both pars. (b) and (cg) applies, the court shall impose the applicable wild animal
14 protection surcharge listed under par. (cg).

15 **SECTION 3.** 29.983 (1) (cg) of the statutes is created to read:

16 29.983 (1) (cg) The amount of the wild animal protection surcharge imposed
17 under ch. 814 for deer with antlers of the following sizes shall be as follows:

18 1. For any deer with antlers measuring at least 125 inches but less than 150
19 inches, not less than \$43.75 nor more than \$2,000.

20 2. For any deer with antlers measuring at least 150 inches but less than 170
21 inches, not less than \$2,001 nor more than \$5,000.

