



2013 ASSEMBLY BILL 473

November 1, 2013 - Introduced by Representatives JACQUE, WEININGER, BORN, HEBL, KAHL, KLEEFISCH, T. LARSON, MARKLEIN, MURPHY, MURTHA, PETRYK, PRIDEMORE, SPIROS, TITTL and WRIGHT, cosponsored by Senators GROTHMAN, LASSA and SHILLING. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources and Sporting Heritage.

AUTHORS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

- 1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 29.024 (2) (d); and *to create* 29.184 (6m) of the statutes;
2 **relating to:** transfer of Class A bear licenses to persons awarded the Purple
3 Heart or serving on active duty in the U.S. armed forces.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) issues two types of bear hunting licenses. The Class A bear license allows the license holder to shoot and kill bear. The Class B bear license allows the license holder to assist a Class A bear license holder in pursuing bear, to bait bear, and to train dogs to pursue bear, but, except under very limited circumstances, it does not allow the license holder to actually shoot or kill bear. DNR administers a cumulative preference system for issuing Class A bear licenses if the number of applicants for the licenses exceeds the number of licenses available. The more preference points an applicant has, the higher the priority he or she is given in the issuance of the Class A bear license.

This bill allows a person who is issued a Class A bear license to transfer that license to a person who was awarded a Purple Heart or to a person who is serving on active duty in the U.S. armed forces (service member). The bill provides that a Purple Heart recipient or service member may be the transferee of a Class A bear license only once during his or her lifetime. The transfer of a license to a Purple Heart recipient or service member does not affect the number of preference points the transferee may have previously acquired under the cumulative preference system. The bill allows both residents and nonresidents to transfer Class A bear licenses and allows both residents and nonresident to be the transferees. No fee in addition to the

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original fee paid by the transferor of the license is required except that, if a resident transfers a license to a nonresident, the resident must pay a fee equal to the difference between the fees for the nonresident and resident license. There is no rebate of the fee if a nonresident transfers a license to a resident.

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

1 **SECTION 1.** 29.024 (2) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 29.024 (2) (d) Except as provided under s. 29.179, 29.180, 29.182 (4), 29.184
3 (6m), 29.185 (4), or 29.519 (2) (d) or by rule, no person may transfer his or her
4 approval or permit the use of any approval by any other person.

5 **SECTION 2.** 29.184 (6m) of the statutes is created to read:

6 29.184 (6m) TRANSFER OF CLASS A BEAR LICENSES. (a) In this subsection, “service
7 member” means a person who is serving on active duty in the U.S. armed forces.

8 (b) Upon application by a holder of a Class A bear license to transfer the license
9 to a person awarded the Purple Heart or to a service member, and upon the payment
10 of any fee required under par. (c), the department shall transfer the license to the
11 person awarded the Purple Heart or the service member if the application is made
12 no later than 15 days immediately preceding the open season for the hunting of bear
13 to which the license applies and if the person awarded the Purple Heart or the service
14 member has not been previously transferred a license under this subsection.

15 (c) If the holder of a Class A bear license is a resident and the holder applies
16 to transfer the license to a nonresident, the holder shall pay, at the time of
17 application, the difference between the fee for a Class A bear license to a resident and
18 the fee for a Class A bear license to a nonresident.

