



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

Tuesday November 5, 2013

Senator Leah Vukmir
Room 131 South
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Senator Vukmir,

We are writing you in your role as Co-Chair of the Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules to request a public hearing to consider an Administrative Rule pertaining to protection of white deer (Section NR 10.02 (3) Wis. Administrative Code). We have received numerous phone calls and e-mails from constituents asking us to provide the same protections for white deer in Sauk County that we afford to white deer in other parts of Wisconsin.

Albino and white deer are generally designated as 'protected' in Wisconsin. These deer may not be killed, transported, or possessed unless authorized by the DNR. However, in 2008 protections for albino and white deer in chronic wasting disease (CWD) management zones were lifted by Clearinghouse Rule 08-013.

Since the implementation of this rule, several white deer have been taken by hunters near the community of Leland, Sauk County (within the CWD Zone), where a small but well known population of white deer are located. Because Leland is located in a CWD management zone, these albino and white deer are not provided the same protections as in other parts of the state. Nevertheless, the majority of citizens and hunters in Sauk County remain strongly supportive of protecting this unique population of white and albino deer.

We were gratified that WDNR Secretary Cathy Stepp recently included a recommendation to expand the protection of white and albino deer to include the CWD zone in the department's Deer Trustee Report rules package. This rule change however will not take effect until the 2014 hunting season at the earliest. With the 2013 nine-day gun deer season approaching, we are alarmed by a growing concern that the existing white deer population may become a target for hunters seeking to harvest a trophy white deer before the rules change.



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While we realize that time is short, we believe that using the authority of your committee to suspend this rule immediately as an emergency measure would be the most expedient and comprehensive way to ensure the safety of these rare animals.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to hearing from you on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Fred A. Clark", written over a horizontal line.

Rep. Fred Clark
Wisconsin State Assembly
81st District

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ed Brooks", written over a horizontal line.

Rep. Ed Brooks
Wisconsin State Assembly
50th District