

Sen. Wirch, Reps. Ohnstad, McGuire: Introduce legislation

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MADISON – Today, Senator Wirch and Representatives Ohnstad and McGuire introduced legislation to clarify a state statute regarding the possession of a dangerous weapon by a person who is under 18 years old.

While Wisconsin law generally prohibits a minor from possessing a dangerous weapon, there is an exception which allows a minor to possess a long gun or rifle if the barrel is longer than 16 inches.

The exception was made to respect Wisconsin's sporting heritage. This bill simply clarifies a minor may only possess a long gun or rifle if they are legally hunting and in compliance with hunting laws.

Senator Wirch and Representatives Ohnstad and McGuire shared the following statement:

"This initial law was made to respect Wisconsin's rich tradition of hunting, and it's important we clarify that by updating the current statute. It's not uncommon to discover loopholes in our state statutes and when we do, it's our job as elected officials to ensure they are corrected."