

Buffalo County Resolution



Drafted By:
Carl Duley, Ag Agent
Presented Month/Year:
May 2021
Involved Committees:
Land Conservation & Ag and Extension Committee

County Department: Ext
Fiscal Impact: YES / NO
AC Approved: YES / NO

RESOLUTION # 21-05-04

A RESOLUTION FOR OPPOSITION TO CHANGES IN WILDLIFE DAMAGE ABATEMENT AND CLAIMS PROGRAM

WHEREAS the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims program, fully funded by a surcharge on hunting licenses, is a voluntary Department of Natural Resources program to assist producers with agricultural losses caused by deer, bears, geese, and cougars, as well as elk and sandhill cranes if hunting those animals is authorized; and,

WHEREAS Buffalo County has participated in the program since its inception in 1983 and has administered the program through the Ag and Extension Committee; and,

WHEREAS the Wisconsin State Legislature is proposing making changes to the Wildlife Damage and Claims program through Senate Bill 63 and Assembly Bill 49 by eliminating the administration of these programs from the Ag and Extension Committee and changing the administration to these programs to the DNR instead; and,

WHEREAS by eliminating any local authority, when landowners have issues and appeals concerning harvest objectives or management of the program, they will no longer appear before the Ag and Extension Committee but would instead have to travel to Madison to appear before DNR officials who don't necessarily have local concerns in mind when rendering a decision.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Buffalo County Board of Supervisors oppose the changes to the Wildlife Damage and Claims program through Senate Bill 63 and Assembly Bill 49 which eliminates any local County control of the program and instead gives all authority to the State government officials.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to Governor Evers, the members of the State Legislature, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and the other counties of the State of Wisconsin.

Adopted at a duly called and noticed meeting of the Buffalo County Board of Supervisors on the 24th day of May, 2021.

Roxann Halverson
Buffalo County Clerk

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Buffalo County Board Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted by:

Ag and Extension Committee

Dwight L Ruff
Dwight Ruff

Excused
Steve Nelson

John Sendelbach
John Sendelbach

Bradley Schmiatknecht
Bradley Schmiatknecht

Excused
William Bruegger

ANTICIPATED FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT