Citizen Resolution # 041522

(For Hearing Officer completion)



Grant authority for WI DNR Conservation Officers to issue trespass citations

The current Wisconsin law does not give DNR Conservation Officers citation authority in response to hunting trespassing complaints. Local law enforcement and Sheriff's department currently hold exclusive citation authority. DNR wardens already have authority to issue trespass violations regarding ATV/UTV use, snowmobile use, timber theft, illegal dumping, and illegal ginseng harvesting. This is a reasonable request for safety and respect of all taxpaying landowners, while closing a loophole so called "hunters" use to steal hunting opportunities from landowners managing wildlife on their own land. Property owners are frustrated by the lack of authority of the DNR wardens responding to trespass complaints and the local authorities are often prioritized elsewhere. Numerous complaint calls to law enforcement demonstrate the continuing persistent lack of compliance by hunters and hunting groups who do not request permission to hunt private property. Often the offenders are let off with a verbal warning. Many municipalities already have their resources stretched very thin and allowing WI DNR Conservation Officers to issue trespass citations allows for more efficient use of resources.

Do you support granting Wisconsin DNR Conservation Officers the authority to issue trespass citations?

Additional Information provided by author:

This resolution had multiple authors. Please see page 2 for author information.

Resolutions introduced at each Spring Hearing are public documents under Wisconsin's Open Records law [ss. 19.31-19.39, Wis. Stats.] and will be posted online for the public to review. Any personally identifiable information will be available to the public but will only be used by the Department for administrative purposes.

Please print typed resolution on 8 ½ X 11 white paper (one-sided) and provide the WCC County Chair with TWO COPIES at the spring hearing. Only the individual author or designated representative may present the resolution. The author or designated representative must be present at the time the resolution is introduced. No more than two resolutions may be introduced by any person during the Congress portion of the spring hearings.

 $Contact \ one \ of \ your \ \underline{local \ WCC \ delegates} \ with \ questions \ or \ for \ assistance \ with \ writing \ your \ resolution.$



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