

JILL BILLINGS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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State Assembly Passes Steve's Law Increasing Accessibility of Hunting and Fishing Licenses in Wisconsin

Madison – Yesterday, the Wisconsin State Assembly unanimously passed Senate Bill 310 which allows residents to use their state issued ID card for proof of residence on the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' GoWild System. Representative Billings introduced this bill with Senator John Jagler and released the following statement:

"Steve's Law was introduced in honor of Steve Johnson, a blind individual from the La Crosse Area who passed away in 2019. Steve dedicated his life to service in many organizations, including the Wisconsin Disability Advisory Council at the DNR, the Wisconsin Council for the Blind and Visually Impaired, the North American Squirrel Association, and more. Steve worked to raise awareness and create change on issues impacting those with disabilities, including this law change."

"Quite simply, Steve's Law allows people to use their state identification cards to verify their residency using the DNR's GoWild system in the same way that those possessing drivers' licenses do. Under current law, DNR does not have access to the state identification card database in the same way that it can access driver's license records to validate residency. This creates a burden and unnecessary obstacle for people to overcome. This bill simply allows all Wisconsin residents equal access to the GoWild system."

"Steve's law has passed through both the Assembly and Senate. I hope that Governor Evers will quickly sign this bill to remove barriers and increase access to our great outdoors."

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