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EARN-A-BUCK

The Problem:

The County Deer Advisory Council (CDAC) in each Wisconsin County is charged with making recommendations for deer harvest. Some counties with high percentages of privately owned land are having difficulty keeping their overall deer populations in check. Various symptoms of over-population are becoming obviously apparent.

The Legislature removed Earn-a-Buck from the management toolbox several years ago. Although it was not popular, it did prove to be an effective tool in reducing deer populations in DMUs that were having difficulty.

Currently, management options are limited to providing additional antlerless tags, and/or an extended antlerless-only Holiday Hunt. However, the big, new tool (which has never been tried and proven) is an absolute antlerless-only hunt across all deer seasons and all weapon types. Many CDACs have expressed concern and doubt whether any of the present tools will have the desired and much-needed result of over-all population reduction.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress in Buffalo County on April 11, 2016 recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the Department of Natural Resources and the Wisconsin Legislature to design a type of Earn-a-Buck season that can be used on a County by County basis if the CDAC of that county decides to use it as a herd management tool.

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YES _____

NO _____