

Citizen Resolution # 682021

(For Hearing Officer completion)



End Bear Baiting

Bear baiting is not a sport. It is a business that is advertised and sold. It facilitates the dumping of millions of gallons of fryer grease, cake icing, caramel, syrup and other waste foods in the north woods. While some states limit baiting to 30 days a year, Wisconsin permits the practice for about 145 days, amounting of roughly 4 million gallons of bait dumped on the landscape. It is estimated that bait now makes up 40% of the diet of Wisconsin black bear, thereby creating an over population of bear that could not be supported by natural food sources.

Wolves, deer, raccoon and other wildlife are becoming conditioned to expect food handouts from humans as well. For good reasons, the general public is prohibited by law from feeding wildlife, yet this conventional wisdom does not apply to bear hunters. Because bear baiting pollutes our forests with junk food, habituates many species to humans, and increases the likelihood of hound/wolf encounters, there is no good or logical justification to continue the practice.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Waukesha County on April 12, 2021, recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the state legislature to develop a plan to gradually phase out and end the practice of baiting bear by beginning to shorten the number of days/months it is allowed.

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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 [local WCC delegates](#) with questions or for assistance with writing your resolution.