



State of Wisconsin
2011 - 2012 LEGISLATURE



LRB-0318/3
ARG:jld&cjs:rs

DOA:.....Byrnes, BB0128d - DMV operating reductions; eliminating requirement of registration plate decal or sticker or other evidence of registration

FOR 2011-13 BUDGET -- NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

AN ACT ...; relating to: the budget.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

TRANSPORTATION

DRIVERS AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Under current law, all vehicle registration plates must display the vehicle's registration number composed of numbers or letters or both, the name "Wisconsin" or abbreviation "Wis," and an indication of the vehicle's registration period or expiration date. In addition, most automobile registration plates must display the words "America's Dairyland" and an indication of the month and year of registration. When renewing a vehicle registration, DOT may issue an insert tag, decal, or other evidence of registration, to be placed on the vehicle's registration plate, to indicate the vehicle's period of registration. In addition, under current law, the registration plates for most vehicles registered on the basis of gross weight must indicate the weight class into which the vehicle falls.

This bill eliminates the requirements that vehicle registration plates display an indication of the vehicle's registration period or expiration date and that most automobile registration plates display an indication of the month and year of registration. The bill also eliminates DOT's issuance of insert tags and decals to indicate a vehicle's period of registration when renewing the vehicle's registration.

The bill further eliminates the requirement that registration plates for most vehicles registered on the basis of gross weight indicate the weight class into which the vehicle falls. Instead, the gross weight must be shown on the vehicle's certificate of registration.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 341.12 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.12 (2) The department shall purchase plates from the Waupun Correctional Institution unless otherwise approved by the governor. Subject to any specific requirements which may be imposed by statute, the department shall determine the size, color and design of registration plates with a view toward making them visible evidence of the period for which the vehicle is registered and the fee class into which the vehicle falls as well as and making them a ready means of identifying the specific vehicle or owner for which the plates were issued.

SECTION 2. 341.12 (3) (c) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 3. 341.13 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.13 (title) Additional specifications for plate design of certain plates and certificate of registration requirements.

SECTION 4. 341.13 (1) (intro.) and (a) of the statutes are consolidated, renumbered 341.13 (1) and amended to read:

341.13 (1) In addition to the matter specified in s. 341.12 (3), registration plates for automobiles registered pursuant to the registration system under s. 341.27, except automobiles registered under s. 341.14 (6r) or 341.145 (1) (c), shall comply with the following specifications: ~~(a) The display the words "America's Dairyland"~~

shall be displayed across either the lower or upper portion of the plate at the discretion of the secretary.

SECTION 5. 341.13 (1) (b) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 6. 341.13 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.13 (2) ~~In addition to the matter specified in s. 341.12 (3), the registration plates for~~ For a vehicle registered on the basis of gross weight except a dual purpose motor home or a motor home, motor truck, farm truck, or dual purpose farm truck registered under s. 341.14 (1), (1a), (1m), (1q), (2), (6m), or (6r) or 341.145 (1) (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) or a motor truck or dual purpose farm truck registered under s. 341.14 (6) shall indicate the weight class into which the vehicle falls in a manner prescribed by the department. ~~The, the gross weight which that~~ determines the registration fee for a dual purpose motor home or a motor home, motor truck, farm truck, or dual purpose farm truck registered under s. 341.14 (1), (1a), (1m), (1q), (2), (6m), or (6r) or 341.145 (1) (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) or a motor truck or dual purpose farm truck registered under s. 341.14 (6) shall be shown on its certificate of registration.

SECTION 7. 341.13 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.13 (3) ~~In lieu of issuing~~ The department is not required to issue a new plate upon each renewal of registration of a vehicle, ~~the department may issue one insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration per vehicle to indicate the period of registration. The tag, decal or other evidence of registration shall be provided by the department and used only if the outstanding plate is in suitable condition for further usage. A decal shall be displayed as provided in s. 341.15 (1m).~~

***NOTE: Section 341.13 (3m) is repealed in both LRB-0056 and LRB-0318. This draft reconciles this duplicative treatment of the provision by removing the provision from LRB-0318. The treatment of this provision remains in LRB-0056.

SECTION 8. 341.13 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.13 (4) ~~A~~ The certificate of registration for a specially designed vehicle which is authorized for operation under s. 343.135 (2) (a) 2. shall bear a tag, decal or other identification issued by the department to indicate that the vehicle may be subject to special equipment standards under s. 347.02 (6) and that the vehicle may be operated only by a person authorized to do so under s. 343.135 (2) (b).

SECTION 9. 341.145 (1r) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 10. 341.15 (1m) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 11. 341.15 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.15 (3) (a) A person who operates a vehicle for which a current registration plate, ~~insert tag, decal~~ or other evidence of registration has been issued without such plate, ~~tag, decal~~ or other evidence of registration being attached to the vehicle, except when such vehicle is being operated pursuant to a temporary operation permit or plate;

SECTION 12. 341.605 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.605 (1) Except as authorized by the department, no person may transfer to another person or offer for sale a registration plate, ~~insert tag, decal~~ or other evidence of registration issued by the department. This subsection does not apply to transfers of vehicles under s. 342.15 (4) (c).

SECTION 13. 341.605 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.605 (2) No person may transfer to another person or offer for sale a counterfeit, forged or fictitious registration plate, ~~insert tag, decal~~ or other evidence of registration.

SECTION 14. 341.61 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.61 (title) Improper use of evidence of registration plate.

SECTION 15. 341.61 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.61 (1) Lends to another a registration plate, ~~insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration~~ for display upon a vehicle for which the plate, tag, decal or ~~other evidence of registration~~ has not been issued.

SECTION 16. 341.61 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.61 (2) Displays upon a vehicle a registration plate, ~~insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration~~ not issued for such vehicle or not otherwise authorized by law to be used thereon.

SECTION 17. 341.61 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.61 (3) Willfully twists, paints, alters or adds to or cuts off any portion of a registration plate, ~~insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration~~; or who places or deposits, or causes to be placed or deposited on such plate, ~~insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration~~ any substance to hinder the normal reading of such plate, ~~insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration~~; or who defaces, disfigures, covers, obstructs, changes or attempts to change any letter or figure thereon; or who causes such plate, ~~insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration~~ to appear to be a different color.

SECTION 18. 341.61 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.61 (4) Possesses a fraudulently or unlawfully obtained registration plate, ~~insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration~~.

SECTION 19. 341.61 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.61 (5) Possesses a counterfeit registration plate, ~~insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration~~.

SECTION 20. 341.615 of the statutes is amended to read:

341.615 Reproducing evidence of registration prohibited. Except as authorized by the department, any person who reproduces, by any means whatever,

a registration plate, ~~insert tag, decal~~ or other evidence of registration shall forfeit not less than \$200 nor more than \$500.

SECTION 21. 341.65 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.65 (1) (b) “Unregistered motor vehicle” means any motor vehicle that is located upon a highway and that is not displaying ~~valid registration plates~~, a temporary operation plate, or ~~other evidence of registration~~ a registration plate for which the department’s vehicle registration records indicate valid registration as provided under s. 341.18 (1) for the vehicle’s current registration period or for a registration period for the vehicle that expired within the immediately preceding 31 days.

SECTION 22. 885.237 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

885.237 (2) Notwithstanding s. 341.04, the fact that an automobile or motor truck having a registered weight of 8,000 pounds or less is located on a highway, as defined in s. 340.01 (22), and is not displaying ~~valid registration plates~~, a temporary operation plate, or other evidence of registration as provided under s. 341.18 (1) is prima facie evidence, for purposes of ch. 341, that the vehicle is an unregistered or improperly registered vehicle. This subsection does not apply to violations of ordinances enacted under s. 341.65, but this subsection does apply to violations of ordinances enacted under s. 341.65, 2003 stats.

SECTION 9348. Initial applicability; Transportation.

(1) REGISTRATION DECALS. The treatment of sections 341.12 (2) and (3) (c), 341.13 (title), (1) (intro.), (a), and (b), (2), (3), (3m), and (4), 341.145 (1r), 341.15 (1m) and (3) (a), 341.605 (1) and (2), 341.61 (title), (1), (2), (3), (4), and (5), 341.615, 341.65 (1) (b), and 885.237 (2) of the statutes first applies with respect to vehicle registrations for

which an application is received by the department of transportation on the effective date of this subsection.

SECTION 9448. Effective dates; Transportation.

(1) **REGISTRATION DECALS.** The treatment of sections 341.12 (2) and (3) (c), 343.13 (title), (1) (intro.), (a), and (b), (2), (3), (3m), and (4), 341.145 (1r), 341.15 (1m) and (3) (a), 341.605 (1) and (2), 341.61 (title), (1), (2), (3), (4), and (5), 341.615, 341.65 (1) (b), and 885.237 (2) of the statutes and SECTION 9348 (1) of this act take effect on the first day of the 7th month beginning after publication.

(END)