



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2013 Wisconsin Act 163**  
[2013 Assembly Bill 559]

**Department of Transportation  
Remedial Legislation**

2013 Wisconsin Act 163 is remedial legislation, introduced by the JLC's Law Revision Committee at the request of the Department of Transportation (DOT). It consists of five provisions.

### **Vehicle Title Information Provided by DOT to County Register of Deeds**

A vehicle owner who creates a security interest in a vehicle (e.g., an automobile loan) must deliver the vehicle's certificate of title to the secured party and must execute the certificate of title or other specified documentation identifying the name and address of the secured party, unless the secured party's name and address is already identified on the certificate of title. The secured party must then provide the certificate of title and any such documentation to DOT, except that, if the secured party is an entity rather than an individual and is not exempted by DOT rule, the secured party must destroy the certificate of title and electronically file a security interest statement with DOT. Upon receipt of the certificate of title from an individual secured party or a security interest statement from a secured party that is an entity, DOT must issue to the vehicle owner a new certificate of title containing the name and address of the secured party. DOT may issue and maintain the official certificate of title in an electronic or digital form.

Under prior law, DOT was also required to deliver to the secured party, unless the secured party is an entity, and to the county register of deeds, memoranda evidencing the notation of the security interest on the certificate of title. Also under prior law, registers of deeds could record and maintain files of these memoranda received from DOT.

Act 163 eliminates the requirement that DOT provide to registers of deeds the memoranda evidencing the notation of a security interest on a vehicle certificate of title. The Act also eliminates specific statutory authority for registers of deeds to record and maintain files of these memoranda received from DOT.

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.

### **Issuance of Multiple Motor Vehicle Operator's Licenses**

In general, DOT may not knowingly issue more than one motor vehicle operator's license to a person and, with limited exceptions, a person may not have more than one operator's license, including having licenses from more than one state, having licenses under more than one name, and having different licenses for the operation of different types of vehicles. However, under prior law a person could hold more than one operator's license for 10 days from the date on which a license was issued.

Act 163 eliminates the exception allowing a person to hold more than one license for a 10-day period after issuance of an operator's license.

### **Special Group Plates for Women Veterans**

A group or organization that meets certain criteria may apply to DOT for designation as an authorized special group. If the application is approved, members of the authorized special group may obtain special registration plates for certain vehicles, including automobiles and motor homes, that are owned or leased by special group members. 2009 Wisconsin Act 230 established an authorized special group for women veterans.

Act 163 repeals the authorization for a general special group registration plate for women veterans and authorizes the establishment of specific special registration plates for women veterans of each branch of the armed services.

### **Location of Motor Vehicle Emissions Inspection Stations**

DOT is required to operate a motor vehicle emission inspection and maintenance program (I/M program) in counties in which the air quality does not meet certain federal standards. Under the I/M program, most motor vehicles that are subject to emission limitations established by the Department of Natural Resources must pass periodic emission inspections and may not be registered by DOT unless they have passed these inspections. DOT may contract with third parties to operate inspection stations at which emission inspections may be performed. Under prior law, no inspection station could be established within 0.5 miles of an air monitoring station that reported a violation during the period from 1976 to 1979 of the carbon monoxide primary national ambient air quality standard.

Act 163 eliminates the provision under which emissions inspection stations may not be established within 0.5 miles of an air monitoring station that reported a violation during the period from 1976 to 1979 of the carbon monoxide primary national ambient air quality standard.

### **Insurance Registration for Motor Carriers Operating in Multiple Jurisdictions**

Prior to the enactment of 2007 Wisconsin Act 20, DOT was authorized to administer a single-state insurance registration system for motor carriers with interstate operations to register in, and pay applicable fees to, a single state with regard to proof of motor carrier insurance. 2007 Wisconsin Act 20 allowed DOT to participate in the unified carrier registration system, which is a replacement for the single-state insurance registration system. 2011

Wisconsin Act 262 eliminated DOT's authority to participate in the single-state insurance registration system.

Act 163 eliminates obsolete references to the single-state insurance registration system for motor carriers with interstate operations.

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