

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2015 Wisconsin Act 328 [2015 Assembly Bill 702]

Various Special Group License Plates

2015 Wisconsin Act 328 establishes designated special groups for persons interested in obtaining special license plates expressing support for the Wisconsin Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Whitetails Unlimited, the Boy Scouts of America, nurses and the nursing profession, or the Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer Fund.

In addition to the regular vehicle registration fee, a special group member for each group is required to pay a \$15 fee for issuance or reissuance of the special plates and to annually include payment of \$25 that provides funds to the appropriate special group.

The Act requires the special plates to display a logo or symbol associated with the respective special group. The Department of Transportation (DOT) may not issue these special plates until DOT has obtained authority to use any applicable trademark or service mark associated with the group on these special plates and until DOT receives a contribution from any interested person or group in the amount of the initial costs of production of these special plates or \$23,700, whichever is less.

After DOT begins issuing special plates to any of these groups, if DOT receives, for two consecutive calendar years, fewer than 500 registration renewal applications for vehicles displaying these special plates and three years have elapsed since DOT first began issuing these special plates or since the previous assessment of the number of renewal applications, DOT must cease issuing the special plates for that group.

Additionally, under prior law, the identifying letters or numbers appearing on a special plate issued to a special group member, including personalized special plates, could not exceed six positions. The Act allows a special plate to have a registration number of up to seven positions.

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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.