



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2007 Assembly Bill 2

**Assembly Substitute
Amendment 1**

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Current Law

Most driver's licenses issued by the Department of Transportation (DOT) must be renewed every eight years. An applicant must pass a test of his or her eyesight to renew a driver's license.

2007 Assembly Bill 2

Assembly Bill 2 would require the DOT to examine the eyesight of people with driver's licenses who are 75 years old or older but less than 85 years old once every three years. The bill would also require the DOT to examine the eyesight of and provide a knowledge test to people at least 85 years old once every two years. The DOT would also be required to consider issuing a restricted operator's license to particular drivers.

The bill would lower the driving skills test fee from \$15 to \$13 but would also require payment of the fee for each attempt. The DOT would have five years to issue a report to the Legislature on the effects of this legislation on highway safety and other factors. The DOT would be required to appoint an advisory council to study the effects of aging and driving ability and examine transportation alternatives, and submit this study to the Legislature in two years.

The bill would also provide the DOT with funding of \$157,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 for implementation of licensing requirements for older drivers, and \$288,649 in fiscal year 2008-09 for 2.5 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions to conduct studies related to older drivers and to administer driver licensing services.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 would require the DOT to examine the eyesight of people who hold driver's licenses that are 72 to 80 years old every four years and people who hold driver's

licenses who are 80 years old or older every two years. The substitute amendment removes the additional knowledge testing requirements for older drivers that would be required under the bill.

The substitute amendment also would further reduce the driving skills test fee to \$12 per test, eliminate the \$157,000 funding to DOT for fiscal year 2007-08, and slightly change the DOT funding amount for fiscal year 2008-09 to \$288,646, which would include the addition of 1.5 FTE positions.

Legislative History

The Assembly Committee on Transportation introduced Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 and recommended adoption of the substitute amendment by votes of Ayes, 12; Noes, 0, and recommended passage of Assembly Bill 2, as amended, by a vote of Ayes, 11; Noes, 1.

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