1995 ASSEMBLY BILL 228

March 17, 1995 – Introduced by Representatives Schneider, Boyle, Gronemus, Grothman, Hahn, Lehman, Lorge, Musser, R. Young and Ziegelbauer, cosponsored by Senator Wineke. Referred to Joint committee on Information Policy.

AN ACT *to create* 343.24 (3m) of the statutes; **relating to:** restricting access to driving records of a person's suspensions, revocations and convictions related to the operation of a motor vehicle while under the influence of an intoxicant or a controlled substance.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law requires the department of transportation (DOT) to maintain a driving record for each person licensed to operate a vehicle. Beginning on January 1, 1993, DOT is required to maintain for 10 years, as part of that record, the suspensions, revocations and convictions of the person relating to the operation of a motor vehicle while under the influence of an intoxicant or a controlled substance or a combination of both (OWI).

This bill continues the requirement that DOT maintain the OWI-related information in the record for 10 years, but restricts the use of the information related to suspensions, revocations and convictions that is maintained for longer than 5 years to only the following: a judge when sentencing a person for a new OWI-related offense, an agency of another state or the federal government for legally authorized functions related to commercial motor vehicle operation, an employer under the employer notification program and law enforcement agencies.

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:

343.24 (3m) The department may not disclose any information in the operating
record of a person concerning any suspensions, revocations and convictions that
would be counted under s. $343.307~(2)$ which has been maintained for longer than 5
years except to any of the following:

- (a) A court for a judge to use when sentencing the person for improperly refusing to take a test under s. 343.305 (10), violating s. 346.63 (1) or (5) or a local ordinance or a law of a federally recognized American Indian tribe or band in this state in conformity with s. 346.63 (1) or (5), or violating s. 346.63 (2) or (6), 940.09 (1) or 940.25.
- (b) An agency of another state or the federal government to perform a legally authorized function. This paragraph is limited to authorizing the disclosure of information concerning convictions committed while driving or operating a commercial motor vehicle.
- (c) An employer obtaining such information under the employer notification program under s. 343.245 (3m).
- (d) A law enforcement agency for purposes related to the enforcement of chs.110, 194, 341 to 349 and 351.

SECTION 2. Initial applicability.

(1) This act first applies to requests for inspection or copying of records made on the effective date of this subsection.

21 (END)