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P.O. Box 8952 Madison, WI 53708-8952

TO:

Chairman Keith Ripp and Members of the Assembly Committee on Transportation

FROM: Representative André Jacque

RE:

Early release of funds generated by special license plates to intended recipients (2013 AB 21)

DATE:

Tuesday March 12, 2013

Honorable Chairman Ripp and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of Assembly Bill 21.

As you know, Wisconsin created two special passenger vehicle license plates during the 2009-2010 legislative session that would raise funds for the Lion's Club Foundation, which administers statewide projects for the Lions, highlighted by the camp for blind, deaf, diabetic and cognitively disabled children, as well as the Bureau of Transportation Safety for use in motorcycle safety.

The \$25 fundraising per each plate was intended to kick in once initial funds earned compensated the Department of Transportation for costs incurred in creating and producing them, with the original stipulation that each plate must generate \$23,700 before any of the proceeds from sales could be released, reflecting the costs anticipated at that point in time.

Fortunately, recent technology and efficiencies have significantly decreased the cost to the DOT for producing the license plates, something I discovered in the process of introducing legislation to create an additional special license plate last session. Only \$6,580 was required by the DOT to cover initial development costs for the Lion's Club plate, and \$16,100 will accommodate the same costs associated with producing the Motor Cycle Safety plate.

This means that the Lion's Club plate has currently raised at least \$7,170 over development costs and the Motor Cycle Safety plate as much as \$60,450.

The clear intent of the Wisconsin Legislature in creating this program was to allow all extra revenue from these two special license plates to fund the Lion's Club and Motor Cycle Safety. Therefore, the purpose of AB 21 is to carry out this intent by recognizing the decreased, actual cost of running these programs. The original production costs on paper should be adjusted to facilitate transfer of the money raised by these license plates to fund the worthy causes intended to benefit from them.

Thank you for your consideration.



Mary Lazich

Wisconsin State Senator Senate District 28

Assembly Committee on Transportation March 12, 2013 Assembly Bill 21

Good morning committee members. Assembly Bill 21 (AB 21) is a clean-up bill for two special registration plates the legislature approved and the Governor signed into law during the 2009-2010 legislative session. The two license plate bills, the Lion's Club plate and Motor Cycle Safety plate, were drafted with the stipulation that each plate must generate \$23,700 to pay for the production of the plate before any of the proceeds from sales could be released to the organization. Due to the technology and efficiencies, the cost to the Department of Transportation (DOT) for producing the License plates decreased.

The \$25 for each Lion's License plate sold goes to the Wisconsin Lions Foundation, Incorporated. The \$25 for each Motor Cycle Safety plate sold goes to the Bureau of Transportation Safety (BOTS) grant fund for motorcycle safety training.

The amount collected to-date for the Lion's Club plate and the Motor Cycle Safety plate exceeds the DOT development costs.

I ask the committee to approve AB 21 and allow the money to go to the intended purpose, the organizations.

Thank you for your attention to AB 21.