



JOHN SPIROS

State Representative • 86th Assembly District

**Testimony on Assembly Bill 657
Assembly Committee on Transportation
Wednesday, November 17, 2021**

Hello, and thank you Chairman Plumer and members of the Assembly Committee on Transportation for allowing me to testify on Assembly Bill 657, relating to disclosure of mileage when titling a motor vehicle.

The intent of AB 657 is simple: update the requirements for when a vehicle's mileage must be disclosed when applying for a certificate of title for a vehicle. Currently, individuals or manufacturers transferring a title to a vehicle less than 10 years old must disclose the mileage. This bill lengthens the timeframe to a vehicle less than 20 years old, or of model year 2011 or later. These changes were requested by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation to bring Wisconsin into compliance with new federal regulations. These new federal regulations state that vehicles manufactured in or after 2011 will only be exempt from mileage disclosure if the transfer is at least 20 years after the first day of the calendar year corresponding to the designated model year of the vehicle.

As technology developments allow vehicles to stay on the road longer and individuals are purchasing more used cars, amid a supply shortage not expected to resolve soon, it is important that consumers know how many miles are on a car at the time of sale. Today, the average age of a vehicle on the road is 12.1 years. This means that consumers could be seeing more odometer fraud in Wisconsin as currently the mileage only needs to be reported for vehicles less than 10 years old. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, an estimated 450,000 vehicles are sold each year with false odometer readings. This fraud ends up costing car buyers at a time when prices continue to rise and vehicles are in short supply. Expanding the timeframe for the required reporting of mileage on a vehicle, helps to deter this fraud.

Thank you again for allowing me the opportunity to share testimony in support of this bill and I will be happy to answer any questions at this time.