
Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO



Memo published: September 20, 2019

Contact: Anna Henning, Senior Staff Attorney

2019 Senate Bill 131

**Senate
Amendment 1**

2019 SENATE BILL 131

Current law generally requires any person who operates a motor vehicle in Wisconsin to carry a motor vehicle liability insurance policy. However, current law provides exceptions to that requirement in certain circumstances.

2019 Senate Bill 131 adds such an exception for a religious sect that has received a certificate of self-insurance under the bill. The bill authorizes the Department of Transportation (DOT) to issue a certificate of self-insurance to a religious sect whose members have collectively registered 25 vehicles, if the sect applies for the certificate within one year after the bill takes effect, and the DOT secretary determines that the sect has at least a 25-year history of mutual financial assistance in times of need to the extent that they share in financial obligations of other members who would otherwise be unable to meet their obligations.

SENATE AMENDMENT 1

The amendment specifies that a certificate issued under the bill does not expire and need not be renewed.

The amendment does not affect a provision of current law that allows the DOT secretary, following notice and a hearing, to cancel a certificate for self-insurance upon reasonable grounds, such as failure to pay a judgment. [See. s. 344.16 (3), Stats.]

BILL HISTORY

Senator Bernier and other members introduced 2019 Senate Bill 131 on March 20, 2019. On August 21, 2019, Senator Bernier offered Senate Amendment 1. On September 19, 2019, the Senate Committee on Insurance, Financial Institutions, Government Oversight, and Courts voted unanimously to recommend adoption of the amendment. The committee then voted to recommend passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 4; Noes, 1.

AH:jal