



State of Wisconsin  
2005 - 2006 LEGISLATURE

LRBs0433/1  
ARG:cjs:jf

**SENATE SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1,  
TO 2005 SENATE BILL 209**

February 17, 2006 – Offered by Senator LEIBHAM.

1     **AN ACT to renumber and amend** 341.14 (6r) (c); **to amend** 341.135 (2m), 341.14  
2           (6r) (b) 1., 341.14 (6r) (e), 341.14 (6r) (f) (intro.) and 341.14 (6r) (fm) 7.; and **to**  
3           **create** 25.29 (1) (f), 25.40 (1) (a) 23., 341.14 (6r) (b) 1m., 341.14 (6r) (b) 11.,  
4           341.14 (6r) (c) 2. and 341.14 (6r) (f) 58. of the statutes; **relating to:** special  
5           distinguishing registration plates expressing enthusiasm for hunting and  
6           fishing for sport and recreation.

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***Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau***

Under current law, any group or organization may apply to the Department of Transportation (DOT) for designation as an authorized special group. If the application is approved, members of the authorized special group may obtain special distinguishing license plates for certain vehicles, including automobiles and motor homes that are owned or leased by special group members. A fee, in addition to the regular registration fee for the particular kind of vehicle, is assessed for the issuance or reissuance of most special plates.

Before October 2, 1998, authorized special groups whose members may obtain special distinguishing license plates were specifically enumerated in state law. Current law provides that specific enumeration in state law of authorized special groups is limited to those special groups enumerated before October 2, 1998.

This bill establishes an authorized special group specifically enumerated in state law for persons interested in obtaining special distinguishing registration plates expressing their enthusiasm for hunting and fishing for sport and recreation in this state. In addition to the regular vehicle registration fee, special group members are required to pay a \$15 fee for issuance or reissuance of the special plates and an additional \$15 annual fee that is deposited in the conservation fund to be used by the Department of Natural Resources for the management of the fish and wildlife resources of this state. The bill specifies the design of the special group plates, which must include a picture of a white-tailed deer and a nature scene in the background. However, DOT may issue the special group plates only if DOT receives, prior to June 30, 2009, contributions at least equal to the initial costs of production of the plates from interested persons to cover DOT's costs of implementation, and, if sufficient contributions are received, only after DOT has completed the development work necessary for implementation. If DOT does not receive sufficient contributions by June 30, 2009, DOT must return all contributions, less a limited transaction fee for costs associated with the return of contributions. These contributions to DOT may not be applied to any fee established for the special group plates if DOT subsequently issues the plates.

Current law requires DOT to establish new designs for most vehicle registration plates, including most special plates, every ten years and to issue the new plates on a rolling basis as vehicle registrations are renewed by the vehicle owners. This bill exempts the special plates established under the bill from the ten-year redesign cycle.

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***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***

1           **SECTION 1.** 25.29 (1) (f) of the statutes is created to read:

2           25.29 (1) (f) Moneys received under s. 341.14 (6r) (b) 5., 7., and 11.

3           **SECTION 2.** 25.40 (1) (a) 23. of the statutes is created to read:

4           25.40 (1) (a) 23. Moneys received under s. 341.14 (6r) (b) 11. that are deposited  
5 in the conservation fund.

6           **SECTION 3.** 341.135 (2m) of the statutes, as created by 2005 Wisconsin Act 25,  
7 is amended to read:

8           341.135 (2m) APPLICABILITY. This section does not apply to special group plates  
9 under s. 341.14 (6r) (f) 19m. or 58.

10          **SECTION 4.** 341.14 (6r) (b) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

1           341.14 **(6r)** (b) 1. ~~Upon~~ Subject to subd. 1m., upon application to register an  
2           automobile or motor home, or a motor truck, dual purpose motor home or dual  
3           purpose farm truck which has a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds, or a  
4           farm truck which has a gross weight of not more than 12,000 pounds, by any person  
5           who is a resident of this state and a member of an authorized special group, the  
6           department shall issue to the person special plates whose colors and design shall  
7           indicate that the vehicle is owned by a person who is a member of the applicable  
8           special group. The department may not issue any special group plates under par. (f)  
9           55. until 6 months after the department has received information sufficient for the  
10          department to determine that any approvals required for use of any logo, trademark,  
11          trade name or other commercial symbol designating the professional football team  
12          have been obtained. The department may not issue any special group plates under  
13          par. (f) 58. until the department has completed the development work specified in  
14          subd. 1m.

15           **SECTION 5.** 341.14 (6r) (b) 1m. of the statutes is created to read:

16           341.14 **(6r)** (b) 1m. Upon receipt of contributions totalling an amount equal to  
17           the initial costs of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 58. from  
18           persons interested in the special group plates under par. (f) 58., the department shall  
19           commence any development work necessary to implement the provisions of par. (f)  
20           58. and related provisions under this subsection and shall complete the development  
21           work within 6 months of its commencement. The development work under this  
22           subdivision shall be funded only from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (4) (ch) from  
23           contributions received by the department for purposes of this subdivision. If the  
24           department does not receive contributions totaling an amount equal to or greater  
25           than the initial costs of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 58. for

1 purposes of this subdivision by June 30, 2009, the department may not commence  
2 development work necessary to implement the provisions of par. (f) 58., and related  
3 provisions under this subsection and shall promptly return to each contributor all  
4 contributions, less a transaction fee of no more than \$2.50 per contributor for costs  
5 associated with the return of contributions, received by the department for purposes  
6 of this subdivision. If the department receives contributions totaling an amount in  
7 excess of the initial costs of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 58.  
8 for purposes of this subdivision, the department shall discontinue receiving  
9 contributions under this subdivision and promptly return to each contributor all  
10 contributions, less a transaction fee of no more than \$2.50 per contributor for costs  
11 associated with the return of contributions, received by the department after the  
12 department had received contributions totaling an amount equal to the initial costs  
13 of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 58. No contribution received  
14 by the department under this subdivision may be applied to any fee established  
15 under subd. 2. or 11.

16 **SECTION 6.** 341.14 (6r) (b) 11. of the statutes is created to read:

17 341.14 **(6r)** (b) 11. An additional fee of \$15 that is in addition to the fee under  
18 subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on an annual  
19 basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 58. An additional fee of \$30 that  
20 is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal  
21 of a plate issued on the biennial basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 58.  
22 if the plate is issued or renewed during the first year of the biennial registration  
23 period or \$15 for the issuance or renewal if the plate is issued or renewed during the  
24 2nd year of the biennial registration period. All moneys received under this  
25 subdivision shall be deposited in the conservation fund to be used by the department

1 of natural resources for the management of the fish and wildlife resources of this  
2 state. To the extent permitted under ch. 71, the fee under this subdivision is  
3 deductible as a charitable contribution for purposes of the taxes under ch. 71.

4 **SECTION 7.** 341.14 (6r) (c) of the statutes is renumbered 341.14 (6r) (c) 1. and  
5 amended to read:

6 341.14 **(6r)** (c) 1. Special group plates shall display the word "Wisconsin", the  
7 name of the applicable authorized special group, a symbol representing the special  
8 group, not exceeding one position, and identifying letters or numbers or both, not  
9 exceeding 6 positions and not less than one position. The Subject to subd. 2., the  
10 department shall specify the design for special group plates, but the department  
11 shall consult the president of the University of Wisconsin System before specifying  
12 the word or symbol used to identify the special groups under par. (f) 35. to 47., the  
13 secretary of natural resources before specifying the word or symbol used to identify  
14 for the special group under par. (f) 50. and the chief executive officer of the  
15 professional football team and an authorized representative of the league of  
16 professional football teams described in s. 229.823 to which that team belongs before  
17 specifying the design for the applicable special group plate under par. (f) 55. Special  
18 group plates under par. (f) 50. shall be as similar as possible to regular registration  
19 plates in color and design.

20 **SECTION 8.** 341.14 (6r) (c) 2. of the statutes is created to read:

21 341.14 **(6r)** (c) 2. Special group plates under par. (f) 58. shall have a nature  
22 scene with a small body of water bordered by rock and vegetation in the background  
23 and the identifying letters or numbers shown on the plates shall be colored black,  
24 with the background slightly dimmed where the identifying letters or numbers  
25 appear. On the left side of these plates, to the left of the identifying letters or

1 numbers, there shall be a picture of a male white-tailed deer from shoulder to head.  
2 The word “Wisconsin” shall be displayed on the top center of these plates, colored in  
3 yellow.

4 **SECTION 9.** 341.14 (6r) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 341.14 (6r) (e) The Subject to par. (c) 2., the department shall specify one  
6 combination of colors for special group plates for groups or organizations which are  
7 not military in nature and not special group plates under par. (f) 35. to 47. and 50.  
8 and for each professional football team under par. (f) 55. The Subject to par. (c) 2.,  
9 the department shall specify one combination of colors for special group plates under  
10 par. (f) 35. to 47. The department shall specify the word or words comprising the  
11 special group name and the symbol to be displayed upon special group plates for a  
12 group or organization which is not military in nature after consultation with the  
13 chief executive officer in this state of the group or organization. The department  
14 shall require that the word or words and symbol for a university specified under par.  
15 (f) 35. to 47. be a registration decal or tag and affixed to the special group plate and  
16 be of the colors for a university specified under par. (f) 35. to 47. that the president  
17 of the University of Wisconsin System specifies.

18 **SECTION 10.** 341.14 (6r) (f) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 341.14 (6r) (f) (intro.) The Subject to par. (b) 1. and 1m., the department shall  
20 issue special group plates under this subsection for the following authorized special  
21 groups:

22 **SECTION 11.** 341.14 (6r) (f) 58. of the statutes is created to read:

23 341.14 (6r) (f) 58. Persons interested in obtaining a plate expressing their  
24 enthusiasm for hunting and fishing for sport and recreation in this state.

