



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2009 Wisconsin Act 118**  
[2009 Assembly Bill 456]

**Self-Authentication by Electronic  
Certification of Certain Department  
of Transportation Records**

### CURRENT LAW

Under current law, documentary evidence offered before a court must meet certain requirements of authentication as a condition precedent to admissibility.

Some documents, including official records, reports, and data compilations, are self-authenticating if specified requirements are met, so that extrinsic evidence of authentication is not required. *Driver records* maintained by the Department of Transportation (DOT) *may be certified electronically* by DOT as public records qualifying for self-authentication *if* the electronic certification is made in a manner determined by DOT to satisfactorily support a finding that the document is what it purports to be.

### 2009 WISCONSIN ACT 118

2009 Wisconsin Act 118 allows DOT to *electronically certify additional records*, in the same manner that DOT electronically certifies driver records, so that these records are self-authenticating. The additional records that DOT may electronically certify for self-authentication purposes include: (1) motor vehicle title and registration records; (2) motor vehicle dealer records; and (3) motor carrier records.

**Effective date:** 2009 Wisconsin Act 118 took effect on February 26, 2010.

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>.