



State of Wisconsin
2015 - 2016 LEGISLATURE

LRB-3783/1
ARG:jld

2015 SENATE BILL 408

December 3, 2015 – Introduced by Senators KAPENGA and WANGGAARD, cosponsored by Representatives KUGLITSCH, CRAIG, HUTTON, JACQUE, KNODL, KULP, T. LARSON, NEYLON, ROHRKASTE, SANFELIPPO and TITTL. Referred to Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety.

1 **AN ACT** *to renumber and amend* 343.15 (2) (b); and *to create* 343.15 (2) (b) 1.
2 and 2. of the statutes; **relating to:** the liability of an adult sponsor of a minor
3 applicant for a motor vehicle operator’s license.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill limits the liability that may be imputed to a parent or other adult who sponsors a person under the age of 18 (minor) in obtaining a motor vehicle operator’s license.

Under current law, with limited exceptions, an application for a motor vehicle operator’s license by a minor must be signed and verified by a parent or other adult sponsor. After the operator’s license is issued, any negligence or willful misconduct of the minor when operating a motor vehicle is imputed to the parents or to the adult sponsor who signed the application. The parents or the adult sponsor is jointly and severally liable with the minor for any damages caused by the minor’s negligent or willful misconduct.

This bill creates a limit for liability imputed to the parents or adult sponsor for damages caused by the minor’s negligent or willful misconduct. Under the bill, liability is limited to the higher of: 1) a total of \$300,000 for all parents or adult sponsors to all parties arising from any one accident; or 2) the limits of any insurance

