



State of Wisconsin  
2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

LRB-5122/1  
EVM:klm

## 2017 ASSEMBLY BILL 894

January 30, 2018 - Introduced by Representatives VRUWINK, ANDERSON and SINICKI. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1     **AN ACT to amend** 343.16 (3) (a), 343.165 (4) (d), 343.20 (1) (a), 343.21 (1) (a),  
2             343.21 (1) (bg), 343.21 (1) (c), 343.21 (1) (d) and 343.21 (1) (n) of the statutes;  
3             **relating to:** operator's license renewals by a person 67 years of age or older.

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

Under current law, most operator's licenses issued by the Department of Transportation must be renewed every eight years. An applicant for renewal of an operator's license must pass an eyesight test and pay a fee.

Under this bill, a person who is 67 years of age or older must renew his or her operator's license every two years rather than every eight years. With each renewal, the person must pass an eyesight test and pay a fee that is 25 percent of the fee that would be applicable if the renewal period were eight years.

For further information see the **state** fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

4             **SECTION 1.** 343.16 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:  
5             343.16 (3) (a) Except as provided in s. 343.165 (4) (d), the department shall  
6             examine every applicant for the renewal of an operator's license once every 8 years

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1 or, if the applicant will be 67 years of age or older when the renewal period  
2 commences, once every 2 years. The department may institute a method of selecting  
3 the date of renewal so that such examination shall be required for each applicant for  
4 renewal of a license to gain a uniform rate of examinations. Subject to par. (am), the  
5 examination shall consist of a test of eyesight. The department shall make  
6 provisions for giving such examinations at examining stations in each county to all  
7 applicants for an operator's license. The person to be examined shall appear at the  
8 examining station nearest the person's place of residence or at such time and place  
9 as the department designates in answer to an applicant's request. In lieu of  
10 examination, the applicant may present or mail to the department a report of  
11 examination of the applicant's eyesight by an ophthalmologist, optometrist or  
12 physician licensed to practice medicine. The report shall be based on an examination  
13 made not more than 3 months prior to the date it is submitted. The report shall be  
14 on a form furnished and in the form required by the department. The department  
15 shall decide whether, in each case, the eyesight reported is sufficient to meet the  
16 current eyesight standards.

17 **SECTION 2.** 343.165 (4) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 343.165 (4) (d) With any license or identification card renewal following a  
19 license or identification card expiration established under s. 343.20 (1m) or 343.50  
20 (5) (c) at other than an 8-year interval, the department may determine whether the  
21 applicant's photograph is to be taken, or if the renewal is for a license the applicant  
22 is to be examined, or both, at the time of such renewal, so long as the applicant's  
23 photograph is taken, and if the renewal is for a license the applicant is examined,  
24 with a license or card renewal at least once every 8 years and the applicant's license  
25 or identification card at all times includes a photograph unless an exception under

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1 s. 343.14 (3m) or 343.50 (4g) applies. With any license renewal by an applicant who  
2 will be 67 years of age or older when the renewal period commences, the department  
3 may determine whether the applicant's photograph is to be taken at the time of  
4 renewal so long as the applicant's photograph is taken with a license renewal at least  
5 once every 8 years and the applicant's license at all times includes a photograph  
6 unless the exception under s. 343.14 (3m) applies.

7 **SECTION 3.** 343.20 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 343.20 (1) (a) Except as otherwise expressly provided in this chapter,  
9 probationary licenses issued under s. 343.085 shall expire 2 years from the date of  
10 the applicant's next birthday. Licenses issued after cancellation shall expire on the  
11 expiration date for the prior license at the time of cancellation. Subject to s. 343.125  
12 (3), all other licenses and license endorsements shall expire 8 years after the date of  
13 issuance or, if an applicant for renewal of a license will be 67 years of age or older on  
14 the current license expiration date, 2 years after the current expiration date. The  
15 department may institute any system of initial license issuance which it deems  
16 advisable for the purpose of gaining a uniform rate of renewals. In order to put such  
17 a system into operation, the department may issue licenses which are valid for any  
18 period less than the ordinary effective period of such license. If the department  
19 issues a license that is valid for less than the ordinary effective period as authorized  
20 by this paragraph, the fees due under s. 343.21 (1) (b) and (d) shall be prorated  
21 accordingly.

22 **SECTION 4.** 343.21 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 343.21 (1) (a) For the initial issuance or renewal of a license authorizing only  
24 the operation of "Class D" motor vehicles, other than a probationary license under

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1 s. 343.085, \$24 or, for renewal under this paragraph if the applicant will be 67 years  
2 of age or older when the renewal period commences, \$6.

3 **SECTION 5.** 343.21 (1) (bg) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 343.21 (1) (bg) For the renewal of authorization to operate “Class M” motor  
5 vehicles, \$8 or, if the applicant will be 67 years of age or older when the renewal  
6 period commences, \$2 in addition to any other fees due.

7 **SECTION 6.** 343.21 (1) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 343.21 (1) (c) For the initial issuance or renewal of authorization to operate  
9 school buses that are not commercial motor vehicles, \$10, or for renewal under this  
10 paragraph if the applicant will be 67 years of age or older when the renewal period  
11 commences, \$2.50.

12 **SECTION 7.** 343.21 (1) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 343.21 (1) (d) Except as provided in s. 343.16 (2) (f) 3., for the initial issuance  
14 or renewal of authorization to operate “Class A”, “Class B” or “Class C” motor  
15 vehicles, or upgrading an existing regular license which only authorizes the  
16 operation of “Class D” motor vehicles, \$64 or, for renewal under this paragraph if the  
17 applicant will be 67 years of age or older when the renewal period commences, \$16.  
18 This fee includes issuance of any “H”, “N”, “P”, or “T” endorsements or “Class D”  
19 authorization applied for at the same time for which the applicant is qualified.  
20 Except as provided in s. 343.16 (2) (f) 3., an additional fee of \$5 is required for the  
21 issuance or renewal of any “S” endorsement applied for or renewed at the same time  
22 for which the applicant is qualified, except that the additional fee for renewal of an  
23 “S” endorsement under this paragraph is \$1.25 if the applicant will be 67 years of age  
24 or older when the renewal period commences.

25 **SECTION 8.** 343.21 (1) (n) of the statutes is amended to read:

