



# Mary Lazich

State Senator - Senate District 28

**Senate Committee on Energy, Consumer Protection and Government Reform**  
**Senate Bill 536/Assembly Bill 695**  
**February 25, 2014**

Good morning committee members and thank you for your attention to Senate Bill 536 (SB 536) and Assembly Bill 695 (AB 695).

2011 Wisconsin Act 187 made it possible for consumers in Wisconsin to purchase air conditioner coolant for motor vehicles from retailers for non-commercial use. While the coolants are now available at retailers throughout the state without regulation, businesses that repair air conditioners remain subject to Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) licensing and regulations.

SB 536 and AB 695 removes unnecessary and duplicate state regulations and permit motor vehicle air conditioner repair centers to compete to provide service to the public, while remaining subject to federal regulations. This legislation eliminates the requirement DATCP issue annual certifications. SB 536 and AB 695 require persons servicing a motor vehicle air conditioner containing ozone-depleting refrigerants are properly trained and certified as specified by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

SB 536 and AB 695 eliminate DATCP's duty to promulgate rules establishing qualifications for persons using equipment for removing or recycling ozone-depleting refrigerants (ODRs) from motor vehicle air conditioners. The bill also eliminates the requirement for DATCP to issue annual certifications. Instead, AB 695 prohibits a person from servicing a motor vehicle air conditioner containing an ODR unless the person is properly trained and certified as specified by the EPA.

January 3, 2014, DATCP issued an emergency rule seeking the same goal as SB 536 and AB 695. Approval of these bills avoids the extensive rulemaking process while accomplishing the same goal of removing registration fees on small business, harmonizing training requirements with federal law, and repealing obsolete code references. SB 536 and AB 695 eliminate the financial burden on small business while maintaining EPA protections.

Thank you for your attention to SB 536 and AB 695.

My name is Robert F. Bakic,owner operator  
Moorland Auto Repair Inc. New Berlin Wis.

I would like to thank this committee for letting me speak  
about this bill.

As of April 2012 John Q. public can refill their auto air  
conditioning system with 1 lb freon cans.

We as dealers have to pay \$4,000.00 for a A/C recharge &  
recycling machine. Also I paid for all of my mechanics to  
be certified. But now the reason for the \$120.00 no longer  
exists because the general public can now do the same  
thing,-they don't have to be certified or have a machine.

I ask that this fee be removed.