



## 2009 ASSEMBLY BILL 579

November 12, 2009 - Introduced by Representatives COLON, YOUNG, CULLEN, MOLEPSKE JR., PRIDEMORE, STEINBRINK, PASCH, FIELDS, STONE, SINICKI, VOS and ZEPNICK, cosponsored by Senators PLALE, COGGS, SULLIVAN, LEHMAN, TAYLOR, KANAVAS and HANSEN. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1     **AN ACT to amend** 341.14 (6r) (b) 1., 341.14 (6r) (f) (intro.) and 341.14 (6r) (fm)  
2             7.; and **to create** 341.14 (6r) (b) 1m. and 341.14 (6r) (f) 61. of the statutes;  
3             **relating to:** special distinguishing registration plates associated with  
4             Marquette University.

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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 registration 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 charged for the issuance or reissuance of most special plates.

Before October 2, 1998, authorized special groups whose members may obtain special plates were specifically enumerated in state law. With certain exceptions, current law provides that specific enumeration in state law of authorized special groups is limited to those special groups enumerated before October 2, 1998. Current law recognizes as authorized special groups persons interested in obtaining a special plate with any of the following University of Wisconsin campuses on it: Eau Claire, Green Bay, La Crosse, Madison, Milwaukee, Oshkosh, Parkside, Platteville, River Falls, Stevens Point, Stout, Superior, or Whitewater.

This bill establishes an authorized special group specifically enumerated in state law for persons interested in expressing their support for Marquette University

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and their appreciation of the many benefits Marquette University and its thousands of alumni confer on 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. DOT may commence development work, and thereafter issue, these special plates only if DOT receives contributions from Marquette University or other interested persons in the amount of the initial costs of production of these special plates or \$11,800, whichever is less, to cover DOT's costs of implementation.

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:*

1           **SECTION 1.** 341.14 (6r) (b) 1. of the statutes, as affected by 2009 Wisconsin Act  
2 28, section 2811, is amended to read:

3           341.14 **(6r)** (b) 1. ~~Upon~~ Subject to subd. 1m., upon application to register an  
4 automobile or motor home, or a motor truck, dual purpose motor home or dual  
5 purpose farm truck which has a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds, or a  
6 farm truck which has a gross weight of not more than 12,000 pounds, by any person  
7 who is a resident of this state and a member of an authorized special group, the  
8 department shall issue to the person special plates whose colors and design shall  
9 indicate that the vehicle is owned by a person who is a member of the applicable  
10 special group. The department may not issue any special group plates under par. (f)  
11 55. or 60. until 6 months after the department has received information sufficient for  
12 the department to determine that any approvals required for use of any logo,  
13 trademark, trade name or other commercial symbol designating, respectively, the  
14 professional football team or the professional baseball team have been obtained.  
15 Notwithstanding s. 341.12 (2), if the department of corrections does not have  
16 flat-plate technology available for use in manufacturing license plates at quality and  
17 cost comparable to that available from the state of Minnesota, the department of

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1 transportation may not issue any special group plates under par. (f) 59. unless the  
2 department of transportation purchases the plates from the state of Minnesota.  
3 Sections 16.70, 16.71, 16.72, 16.75, 16.752 to 16.755, 16.765, 16.77, and 16.82 do not  
4 apply to purchases of plates issued under par. (f) 59. from the state of Minnesota.

5 **SECTION 2.** 341.14 (6r) (b) 1m. of the statutes is created to read:

6 341.14 **(6r)** (b) 1m. Upon receipt of contributions totaling an amount equal to  
7 the initial costs of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 61. or \$11,800,  
8 whichever is less, from Marquette University or other persons interested in the  
9 special group plates under par. (f) 61., the department shall commence any  
10 development work necessary to implement the provisions of par. (f) 61. and related  
11 provisions under this subsection and shall complete the development work within 6  
12 months of its commencement. The development work under this subdivision shall  
13 be funded only from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (4) (ch) from contributions  
14 received by the department for purposes of this subdivision. If the department does  
15 not receive, by June 30, 2013, sufficient contributions to commence development  
16 work under this subdivision, the department may not commence development work  
17 under this subdivision and shall promptly return to each contributor all  
18 contributions, less a transaction fee of no more than \$2.50 per contributor for costs  
19 associated with the return of contributions, received by the department for purposes  
20 of this subdivision. If the department receives contributions in excess of the amount  
21 necessary to commence development work under this subdivision, the department  
22 shall discontinue receiving contributions under this subdivision and promptly  
23 return to each contributor all contributions, less a transaction fee of no more than  
24 \$2.50 per contributor for costs associated with the return of contributions, received  
25 by the department after the department had received sufficient contributions. No

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1 contribution received by the department under this subdivision may be applied to  
2 any fee established under subd. 2. The department may not issue any special group  
3 plates under par. (f) 61. until the department has completed the development work  
4 specified in this subdivision.

5 **SECTION 3.** 341.14 (6r) (f) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

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

9 **SECTION 4.** 341.14 (6r) (f) 61. of the statutes is created to read:

10 341.14 **(6r)** (f) 61. Persons interested in obtaining a plate expressing their  
11 support for Marquette University and their appreciation of the many benefits  
12 Marquette University and its thousands of alumni confer on this state.

13 **SECTION 5.** 341.14 (6r) (fm) 7. of the statutes, as affected by 2009 Wisconsin Act  
14 28, section 2824, is amended to read:

15 341.14 **(6r)** (fm) 7. After October 1, 1998, additional authorized special groups  
16 may only be special groups designated by the department under this paragraph. The  
17 authorized special groups enumerated in par. (f) shall be limited solely to those  
18 special groups specified under par. (f) on October 1, 1998. This subdivision does not  
19 apply to the special groups specified under par. (f) 3m., 6m., 9g., 9m., 12g., 12m.,  
20 19m., 49d., 49h., 49s., 54., 55., 55m., 56., 57., 58., 59., ~~and 60., and 61.~~

21 **SECTION 6. Effective date.**

22 (1) This act takes effect on January 1, 2010, or on the day after publication,  
23 whichever is later.

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(END)