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

SECTION 1. 341.145 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

In this section, "personalized license plate" means a registration plate for an owned automobile, station wagon, motorcycle or a motor truck which has a gross weight of not more than 6,000 pounds, which displays a registration number composed...
of letters or numbers, or both, requested by the applicant. Personalized license plates shall be of the same color and design as regular license plates and shall consist of numbers or letters, or any combination thereof, not exceeding 5 positions and not less than one position for a plate issued for a motorcycle or not exceeding 6 positions and not less than 2 positions for all other plates.

SECTION 2. 341.295 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.295 (3) (a) If the applicant holds registration plates which were removed from a motor truck or motorcycle under s. 341.31 (4) (b) or (c), 342.15 (4) (a) or 342.34 (1) (c), and the plates were issued under the monthly series system, the department shall register the motorcycle or motor truck which is the subject of the application for the remainder of the unexpired registration period.

SECTION 3. 341.31 (1) (b) 5 of the statutes is created to read:

341.31 (1) (b) 5. The vehicle is a motorcycle which has been transferred to the applicant and for which current registration plates had been issued to the previous owner; or

SECTION 4. 341.31 (4) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

341.31 (4) (c) A person retaining a set of plates removed from a motorcycle may receive credit for the unused portion of the registration fee paid when registering a replacement motorcycle.

SECTION 5. 342.15 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

342.15 (4) (a) If the vehicle being transferred is a motorcycle or an automobile or station wagon registered under the monthly series system or a motor truck for which personalized license plates have been issued, the owner shall remove the registration plates and retain and preserve them for use on any other vehicle of the same type which may subsequently be registered in his or her name. If the vehicle being transferred is a motor truck registered under the maximum gross weight system for 6,000 pounds or less, the owner shall remove the registration plates and retain and preserve them for use on any other motor truck which may subsequently be registered for not more than 6,000 pounds in his or her name.

SECTION 6. 342.34 (1) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

342.34 (1) (c) If the motor vehicle is a motorcycle or an automobile or station wagon registered under the monthly series system or a motor truck for which personalized license plates have been issued, the owner shall remove the registration plates and retain and preserve them for use on any other vehicle of the same type which may subsequently be registered in his or her name. If the motor vehicle is a motor truck registered under the maximum gross weight system for 6,000 pounds or less, the owner shall remove the registration plates and retain and preserve them for use on any motor truck which may subsequently be registered for not more than 6,000 pounds in the owner’s name. If the motor vehicle is not a motorcycle or an automobile or station wagon registered under the monthly series system, or a motor truck for which personalized license plates have been issued, or a motor truck registered under the maximum gross weight system for 6,000 pounds or less, he or she shall remove and destroy the plates.

SECTION 7. Effective date. This act takes effect on the first day of the 6th month commencing after its publication.