2001 ASSEMBLY BILL 63

February 1, 2001 – Introduced by Representatives Stone, Sykora, Ladwig, Gronemus, Urban, Steinbrink, La Fave, Miller, Vrakas, Townsend, Williams, Ainsworth and Ott, cosponsored by Senators Roessler and Schultz. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

AN ACT *to amend* 346.67 (title) and (1) (intro.), 346.67 (1) (a) and 346.67 (1) (b) of the statutes; **relating to:** the duty of a motor vehicle operator who is involved in an accident with a person or an attended or occupied vehicle and providing a penalty.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the operator of a motor vehicle who is involved in an accident with an attended or occupied vehicle or with a pedestrian that results in injury or death to a person or damage to a motor vehicle is required to stop at the scene of the accident and provide assistance to any injured person. The operator is also required to provide his or her name, address, driver's license, and the registration number of his or her vehicle to any person who is struck by the operator's vehicle and to the operator or occupant of any vehicle that is struck by the operator's vehicle. A motor vehicle operator who fails to stop at the scene of an accident and provide the required information and assistance may, depending on the severity of the injuries caused by the accident, be subject to a maximum fine of \$10,000 or imprisonment for up to seven years, or both.

This bill extends the duty to stop at the scene of an accident and provide the required information and assistance if an operator of a motor vehicle knew or should have known that his or her actions caused an accident. An operator who knew or should have known that his or her actions caused an accident and who fails to comply with these requirements is subject to the same penalties as those currently imposed

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upon the operator of a motor vehicle who is involved in an accident and who fails to stop at the scene of the accident.

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

SECTION 1. 346.67 (title) and (1) (intro.) of the statutes are amended to read: **346.67** (title) **Duty upon striking person or attended or occupied vehicle or causing an accident.** (1) (intro.) The operator of any vehicle who is involved in or who knew or should have known that his or her actions caused an accident resulting in injury to or death of any person or in damage to a vehicle which is driven or attended by any person shall immediately stop such his or her vehicle at the scene of the accident or as close thereto to the scene of the accident as possible but shall then forthwith return to and in every event shall remain at the scene of the accident until the operator has fulfilled all of the following requirements:

Section 2. 346.67 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

346.67 **(1)** (a) The operator shall give his or her name, address, and the registration number of the vehicle he or she is driving to the any person struck or injured as a result of the accident or to the operator or occupant of or person attending any vehicle collided with; and that is damaged as a result of the accident.

SECTION 3. 346.67 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

346.67 **(1)** (b) The operator shall, upon request and if available, exhibit his or her operator's license to the <u>any</u> person struck <u>or injured as a result of the accident</u> or to the operator or occupant of or person attending any vehicle collided with; and that is damaged as a result of the accident.

SECTION 4. Initial applicability.

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1 (1) This act first applies to accidents occurring on the effective date of this subsection.

3 (END)