2001 ASSEMBLY BILL 110

February 8, 2001 – Introduced by Representatives LA FAVE, WIECKERT, MUSSER, BIES, OWENS, AINSWORTH, HUBER, LADWIG, J. LEHMAN, DUFF, LASSA, M. LEHMAN, JESKEWITZ, TOWNSEND, KREUSER, VRAKAS, KEDZIE, OTT and HUNDERTMARK, cosponsored by Senators BURKE, ROESSLER and HUELSMAN. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

AN ACT to repeal 343.237 (11); and to amend 343.237 (9) of the statutes; relating to: access by law enforcement agencies to photographs taken for drivers’ licenses and identification cards.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the department of transportation (DOT) maintains copies of all photographs taken, on or after September 1, 1997, by DOT for drivers’ licenses and identification cards. DOT is required to keep the photographs confidential except that DOT may release a photograph to a law enforcement agency of this state or of an adjacent state for any of the following purposes: 1) to investigate unlawful activity; 2) to investigate a missing person; 3) to identify an accident victim; or 4) to identify a missing person. DOT may not release any photograph taken for a driver’s license or identification card to a law enforcement agency after December 31, 2002.

This bill removes that sunset provision.

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

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

SECTION 1. 343.237 (9) of the statutes is amended to read:
343.237 (9) Not later than August 1, 1998, and annually thereafter until August 1, 2003, the department of transportation and the department of justice jointly shall submit a report to the chief clerk of each house of the legislature for distribution to the legislature under s. 13.172 (2) concerning the copies of photographs provided under this section, including the agencies to whom and the purposes for which the copies of the photographs were provided. The department of transportation and the department of justice shall consult with other interested persons when preparing a report under this subsection.

SECTION 2. 343.237 (11) of the statutes is repealed.