



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2003 Assembly Bill 498	Assembly Amendment 1
<i>Memo published:</i> January 28, 2004	<i>Contact:</i> Dan Schmidt, Analyst (267-7251)

Current law prohibits DOT from disclosing Social Security numbers derived from applications for driver's licenses and vehicle titles to any person except the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) for the purpose of administering certain child and spousal support laws. In addition, current law prohibits DOT from disclosing a signature obtained from a driver's license application to any person except the person to whom the signature relates.

2003 Assembly Bill 498 allows DOT to disclose any information obtained from driver's license and vehicle title applications, *including Social Security numbers and signatures*, to the Department of Revenue (DOR) for the sole purpose of administering state taxes.

Assembly Amendment 1 to 2003 Assembly Bill 498 alters the use of information derived from driver's license application files. Rather than allowing DOT to provide all license information for the sole purpose of administering state taxes, the amendment permits the use of names, addresses, license numbers, and Social Security numbers for the purposes of administering state taxes and setoffs¹ under state income tax law. In addition, the amendment limits the use of confidential signatures that are associated with an individual's driver's license file to the purpose of investigating allegations of tax fraud.

The Assembly Committee on Government Operations and Spending Limitations recommended adoption of Assembly Amendment 1 to 2003 Assembly Bill 498 by a vote of Ayes, 6, Noes, 0, and passage of 2003 Assembly Bill 498 by a vote of Ayes, 6, Noes, 0, on January 28, 2004.

DWS:ksm:wu

¹A setoff occurs when an amount of money that is owed to a state or local government agency is withheld, generally from a tax refund due, by the DOR for the other state or local government agency in order to repay the debt.

