

## 2005 ASSEMBLY BILL 112

1     **AN ACT to amend** 341.135 (1), 341.135 (2) and 341.14 (1) of the statutes; **relating**  
2     **to:** motor vehicle registration plates for disabled veterans.

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*Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

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

3     **SECTION 1.** 341.135 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:  
4     341.135 (1) DESIGN. Every 7th year, the department shall establish new  
5     designs of registration plates to be issued under ss. 341.14 (1), (1a), (1m), (1q), (2),  
6     (2m), (6m), and (6r), 341.25 (1) (a), (c), (h), and (j) and (2) (a), (b), and (c), and 341.26  
7     (2) and (3) (a) 1. and (am). Any design for registration plates issued for automobiles  
8     and for vehicles registered on the basis of gross weight shall comply with the  
9     applicable design requirements of ss. 341.12 (3), 341.13, and 341.14 (6r) (c). The  
10    designs for registration plates specified in this subsection shall be as similar in

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1 appearance as practicable during each 7–year design interval. Except as provided  
2 in s. ss. 341.13 (2r) and 341.14 (1), each registration plate issued under s. 341.14 (1),  
3 (1a), (1m), (1q), (2), (2m), (6m), or (6r), 341.25 (1) (a), (c), (h), or (j) or (2) (a), (b), or (c),  
4 or 341.26 (2) or (3) (a) 1. or (am) during each 7–year design interval shall be of the  
5 design established under this subsection. The department may not redesign  
6 registration plates for the special groups under s. 341.14 (6r) (f) 53., 54., or 55. until  
7 July 1, 2007. Except for registration plates issued under s. 341.14 (6r) (f) 53., 54., or  
8 55., the first design cycle for registration plates issued under ss. 341.14 (1), (1a), (1m),  
9 (1q), (2), (2m), (6m), and (6r), 341.25 (1) (a), (c), (h), and (j) and (2) (a), (b), and (c), and  
10 341.26 (2) and (3) (a) 1. and (am) began July 1, 2000.

11 **SECTION 2.** 341.135 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

12 341.135 **(2)** ISSUANCE. (a) 1. Beginning with registrations initially effective on  
13 July 1, 2000, upon receipt of a completed application to initially register a vehicle  
14 under s. 341.14 (1), (1a), (1m), (1q), (2), (2m), (6m), or (6r), except s. 341.14 (6r) (f) 53.,  
15 54., or 55., or s. 341.25 (1) (a), (c), (h), or (j) or (2) (a), (b), or (c) or 341.26 (2) or (3) (a)  
16 1. or (am), the department shall issue and deliver prepaid to the applicant 2 new  
17 registration plates of the design established under sub. (1).

18 2. Notwithstanding s. 341.13 (3), beginning with registrations initially  
19 effective on July 1, 2007, upon receipt of a completed application to initially register  
20 a vehicle under s. 341.14 (1), (1a), (1m), (1q), (2), (2m), (6m), or (6r), or s. 341.25 (1)  
21 (a), (c), (h), or (j) or (2) (a), (b), or (c) or 341.26 (2) or (3) (a) 1. or (am), or to renew the  
22 registration of a vehicle under those sections for which a registration plate has not  
23 been issued during the previous 7 years, the department shall issue and deliver  
24 prepaid to the applicant 2 new registration plates of the design established for that  
25 7–year period under sub. (1).

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1 (am) Notwithstanding s. 341.13 (3) and (3m), beginning with registrations  
2 initially effective on July 1, 2000, upon receipt of a completed application to renew  
3 the registration of a vehicle registered under s. 341.14 (1), (1a), (1m), (1q), (2), (2m),  
4 (6m), or (6r), except s. 341.14 (6r) (f) 53., 54., or 55., or s. 341.25 (1) (a), (c), (h), or (j)  
5 or (2) (a), (b), or (c) for which a registration plate of the design established under sub.  
6 (1) has not been issued, the department may issue and deliver prepaid to the  
7 applicant 2 new registration plates of the design established under sub. (1). This  
8 paragraph does not apply to registration plates issued under s. 341.14 (6r) (f) 52.,  
9 1997 stats. This paragraph does not apply after June 30, 2007.

10 (d) The department may not issue new registration plates under this section  
11 for vehicles registered under ss. 341.14 ~~(1)~~ and (1r) and 341.27 (3) (a).

12 (e) The department shall issue new registration plates of the design established  
13 under sub. (1) for every vehicle registered under s. 341.14 (1), (1a), (1m), (1q), (2),  
14 (2m), (6m), or (6r), 341.25 (1) (a), (c), (h), or (j) or (2) (a), (b), or (c), or 341.26 (2) or (3)  
15 (a) 1. or (am) after July 1, 2007.

16 **SECTION 3.** 341.14 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 341.14 **(1)** If any resident of this state who is registering or has registered an  
18 automobile, or a motor truck, dual purpose motor home or dual purpose farm truck  
19 which has a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds, a farm truck which has a  
20 gross weight of not more than 12,000 pounds or a motor home submits a statement  
21 once every 4 years, as determined by the department, from the U.S. department of  
22 veterans affairs certifying to the department that the resident is, by reason of  
23 injuries sustained while in the active U.S. military service, a person with a disability  
24 that limits or impairs the ability to walk, the department shall procure, issue and  
25 deliver to the veteran, plates of a special design in lieu of the plates which ordinarily

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1 would be issued for the vehicle, and shall renew the plates. The plates shall have a  
2 light blue background except for a white border not to exceed one inch at top and  
3 bottom, and blue lettering, except that the word “VET” and the identifying number  
4 shown on the plates shall be colored red, white, and blue and the department shall  
5 consult the department of veterans affairs before specifying the design of the plates.  
6 The plates shall be so designed as to readily apprise law enforcement officers of the  
7 fact that the vehicle is owned by a disabled veteran and is entitled to the parking  
8 privileges specified in s. 346.50 (2). No charge in addition to the registration fee shall  
9 be made for the issuance or renewal of such plates.

**SECTION 3m. Nonstatutory provisions.**

11 (1) Prior to consultation with the department of transportation as required  
12 under section 341.14 (1) of the statutes, as affected by this act, the department of  
13 veterans affairs shall solicit input from the state’s veterans organizations regarding  
14 the design of the special plates under section 341.14 (1) of the statutes, as affected  
15 by this act.

**SECTION 4. Initial applicability.**

17 (1) This act first applies to registration plates issued by the department of  
18 transportation on the effective date of this subsection.

**SECTION 5. Effective date.**

20 (1) This act takes effect on the first day of the 4th month beginning after  
21 publication.

22 (END)