

DRAFTER'S NOTE
FROM THE
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

LRB-1656/P1dn
BAB:wlj:nwn

February 19, 2007

ATTN: Lorna George

The attached draft has been prepared in preliminary form. Please review the draft carefully to ensure that it is consistent with your intent. Your request specified that this bill should waive commercial driver license (CDL) testing for holders of a military driver's license. This draft allows such a waiver only for vehicles and endorsements the applicant is authorized to operate by his or her federal military license. Is this acceptable?

There are several different tests that are required to obtain motor vehicle operator's licenses in Wisconsin, including a knowledge test, an eyesight test, and a driving skills test. This draft waives the requirement that the military license holder take the CDL knowledge and driving skills tests, but continues the requirement that the applicant take an eyesight test. Is that acceptable?

While some of the persons whom this draft addresses will be continuing a military affiliation through the reserves program, others will have been discharged from the armed forces by the time they seek to obtain a Wisconsin CDL and may no longer have a current military license. Do you want to impose any sort of time limit from the date the military license expires or is canceled — for instance, within one year of the license's expiration — to allow the veteran to obtain a Wisconsin CDL under this bill? Do you want to limit the applicability of this bill only to military license holders who have not been dishonorably discharged from the armed forces?

In addition to the above issues, there are several other issues about which it may be helpful to consult with DOT, including compliance issues with federal law and whether there should be an exception to the waiver for knowledge testing required for a hazardous materials endorsement.

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