February 19, 2008 – Introduced by Senators Plale, Lehman, Grothman and Cowles, cosponsored by Representatives Honadel, Krusick, Stone, Murtha, Lothian, Ballweg, Albers, Townsend and Zepnick. Referred to Committee on Transportation and Tourism.

1 AN ACT to amend 340.01 (72) (a) and 341.47 (3) of the statutes; relating to:

registration plates for vehicle transporters.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a person who transports motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, or recreational vehicles, either by towing on the vehicles’ own wheels or under the vehicles’ own power, may register as a transporter with the Department of Transportation (DOT) and obtain special transporter registration plates. A transporter may tow or operate one of the designated types of vehicles without the vehicle being registered with DOT, provided the transporter displays valid transporter plates upon the vehicle and transports the vehicle between certain entities involved in the sale of such vehicles, including a dealer, a distributor, the manufacturer, or a branch of the manufacturer.

This bill allows a transporter, who is a 3rd party and has no ownership interest, to display transporter registration plates on a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle being transported from a dealer, a distributor, the manufacturer, or a branch of the manufacturer to the purchaser of such vehicle, or from any location to a dealer, a distributor, the manufacturer, or a branch of the manufacturer.

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. 340.01 (72) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

340.01 (72) (a) A person who is engaged in this state in the business of transporting and delivering motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers or recreational vehicles in tow on their own wheels or under their own power from the manufacturer to the distributor, a dealer, the manufacturer, or a branch of the manufacturer to the purchaser, or from the any location to a distributor or a dealer to another distributor or dealer, the manufacturer, or a branch of the manufacturer or from the branch of the manufacturer to the distributor, dealer or manufacturer, and who is a 3rd party with no ownership interest in the vehicles.

SECTION 2. 341.47 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.47 (3) A vehicle which is being transported in tow on its own wheels or under its own power from the manufacturer to the distributor, a dealer, the manufacturer, or a branch of the manufacturer to the purchaser, or from the any location to a distributor or a dealer to another distributor or dealer or to the manufacturer, or a branch of manufacturer, or from the branch of the manufacturer to the distributor, dealer or manufacturer by a transporter of vehicles who is a 3rd party with no ownership interest in the vehicle, need not be registered if such vehicle has displayed upon it valid registration plates issued to the transporter pursuant to s. 341.51. The requirement under this subsection that the vehicle be transported in tow on its own wheels or under its own power does not apply to trailers, semitrailers or truck tractors.

(END)