



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2015 Wisconsin Act 106**  
[2015 Senate Bill 153]

**Donating Abandoned Vehicles**

Wisconsin law establishes procedures for municipalities and counties to impound and dispose of abandoned vehicles. Very generally, these procedures provide for an abandoned vehicle to be auctioned to the highest bidder if the vehicle is not claimed after a certain period of time. In cases in which the cost of towing and impounding would exceed the vehicle's value, the vehicle may be either junked or sold prior to the expiration of the impoundment period if the chief of police or sheriff determines the vehicle is not stolen or wanted for evidence.

2015 Wisconsin Act 106 authorizes a municipality or county to donate an abandoned or seized vehicle to a nonprofit organization as an alternative to junking it, selling it, or using it for official use.

*Effective date:* November 13, 2015

*Prepared by:* David Moore, Staff Attorney

December 7, 2015

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.