AN ACT to renumber and amend 341.35 (1); and to create 341.35 (1r) of the statutes; relating to: authorized bases of local motor vehicle registration fees.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill authorizes a city, village, or town (municipality) or county to impose a motor vehicle registration fee that is a flat fee or that is a variable fee based on any of several enumerated factors.

Under current law, any municipality or county may, by ordinance, impose an annual motor vehicle registration fee on most automobiles and light-duty trucks customarily kept in the municipality or county. The Department of Transportation collects this local registration fee, which is in addition to the state registration fee, at the time DOT collects the state registration fee and remits the local registration fee, minus administrative costs of collection, to the applicable municipality or county. The local registration fee may only be used by a municipality or county for transportation purposes.

Currently, a local motor vehicle registration fee must be a flat fee. Under this bill, the fee may be a flat fee or may be based on the vehicle’s value, weight, or number of axles or the owner’s income.

For further information see the state and local 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. 341.35 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 341.35 (1) (intro.) and amended to read:

341.35 (1) **Annual Registration Fee Definitions.** (intro.) In this section

“municipality”:

(b) “Municipality” means a town, village, or city and “motor

(a) “Motor vehicle” means an automobile or motor truck registered under s. 341.25 (1) (c) at a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds.

(1g) **Annual Registration Fee.** The governing body of a municipality or county may enact an ordinance imposing an annual flat municipal or county registration fee on all motor vehicles registered in this state which are customarily kept in the municipality or county. A registration fee imposed under this section shall be in addition to state registration fees.

SECTION 2. 341.35 (1r) of the statutes is created to read:

341.35 (1r) **Authorized Fees.** A municipal or county registration fee under this section shall be any of the following:

(a) A flat fee.

(b) A variable fee based on any of the following:

1. The value of the motor vehicle.

2. The weight of the motor vehicle.

3. The number of axles of the motor vehicle.

4. The income of the motor vehicle’s owner.

(END)