2019 SENATE BILL 547

October 31, 2019 - Introduced by Senators JACQUE, OLSEN and L. TAYLOR, cosponsored by Representatives TITTL, PLUMER, SKOWRONSKI, SORTWELL, HORLACHER, VORPAGEL, STEFFEN, PETRYK, KULF, KUGLITSCH, BORN, NYGREN and TUSLER. Referred to Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety.

AN ACT to create 895.508 of the statutes; relating to: liability exemption for the provision of previously owned eyeglasses.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill establishes a liability exemption for charitable organizations for damages arising out of providing previously owned eyeglasses. The bill defines a charitable organization as an organization the contributions to which are deductible by corporations in computing net income.

Under the bill, a charitable organization is not liable for any damages arising out of providing previously owned eyeglasses to a person if the recipient of the eyeglasses is at least 14 years of age and the eyeglasses are provided without charge. The bill also requires that the eyeglasses be provided by a licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist who has either personally examined the person who will receive the eyeglasses and issued a prescription for the eyeglasses or personally consulted with the licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist who issued the prescription for the eyeglasses.

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

SECTION 1. 895.508 of the statutes is created to read:
895.508 Liability exemption; provision of previously owned eyeglasses. (1) In this section, “charitable organization” has the meaning given in s. 895.51 (1) (b).

(2) A charitable organization is not liable for any damages arising out of providing previously owned eyeglasses to a person if all of the following are true:

(a) The recipient of the eyeglasses is at least 14 years of age.

(b) The eyeglasses are provided without charge.

(c) For distribution of eyeglasses, the eyeglasses are provided by a licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist who has done any of the following:

1. Personally examined the person who will receive the eyeglasses and issued a prescription for the eyeglasses.

2. Personally consulted with the licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist who issued the prescription for the eyeglasses.