
Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO



Memo published: February 14, 2022

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2021 Assembly Bill 432

Assembly Amendment 2 and Assembly Substitute Amendment 1

2021 ASSEMBLY BILL 432

2021 Assembly Bill 432 establishes minimum specifications for construction, reflectivity, luminance, and security features of registration plates issued by the Department of Transportation (DOT) for vehicle registrations initially effective February 1, 2022.

With regard to renewal of a vehicle registration, DOT must issue the new type of registration plates if registration plates have not been issued for the vehicle during the previous seven years. The bill establishes a fee of \$6.50 for a pair of the plates.

In instances where current registration plates are lost, destroyed, or become illegible, the bill increases the fee for the issuance of new registration plates from \$2 per plate to \$3.25 per plate.

The bill has an effective date of February 1, 2022.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 2

Under Assembly Amendment 2, the provision of the bill requiring DOT to issue the new type of registration plates takes effect either on the date the Joint Committee on Finance approves funding for the issuance of new registration plates or July 1, 2023, whichever is earlier. The effective date for the rest of the bill would remain February 1, 2022.

The amendment requires DOT to issue the new type of registration plates upon renewal of a vehicle registration if registration plates have not been issued for the vehicle during the previous 10 years (as opposed to seven years under the bill) and requires DOT to complete the issuance of new registration plates by February 1, 2032.

The amendment increases the fee for new registration plates to \$4 per plate (as opposed to \$6.50 for a pair under the bill).

The amendment increases the fee for the issuance of new registration plates in instances where current registration plates are lost, destroyed, or become illegible to \$4 per plate (as opposed to \$3.25 per plate under the bill).

ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 largely retains the modifications made to the bill by Assembly Amendment 2. However, the substitute amendment delays the date on which DOT must begin issuing new registration plates from February 1, 2022, to July 1, 2022, and delays the date by which DOT must complete the issuance of new registration plates from February 1, 2032, to July 1, 2032. Similar to

Assembly Amendment 2, the substitute amendment provides that these two obligations take effect either on the date the Joint Committee on Finance approves ongoing funding for the issuance of new registration plates or on July 1, 2023, whichever is earlier. The substitute amendment changes the effective date of the rest of the bill from February 1, 2022, to July 1, 2022.

BILL HISTORY

Representative Zimmerman offered Assembly Amendment 2 on November 18, 2021. On December 14, 2021, the Assembly Committee on Transportation recommended adoption of the amendment on a vote of Ayes, 10; Noes, 3, and recommended passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 8; Noes, 5.

Representative Zimmerman offered Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 on January 27, 2022. On February 9, 2022, the Joint Committee on Finance recommended adoption of Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 on a vote of Ayes, 15; Noes, 0, and recommended passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 15; Noes, 0.

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