

1987 Assembly Bill 578

Date of enactment: November 25, 1987  
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## 1987 Wisconsin Act 112

AN ACT to renumber and amend 341.145 (1g); to amend 341.11 (4), 341.13 (1) (intro.), 341.13 (2), 341.145 (1) (intro.), 341.145 (3) and 341.16 (1) (b); and to create 341.14 (6r), 341.145 (1) (c) and 341.145 (1g) (b) of the statutes, relating to special registration plates for members of authorized special groups.

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

SECTION 1. 341.11 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.11 (4) In the case of ~~motor trucks~~ a vehicle registered on the basis of gross weight for which special registration plates have been issued under s. 341.14 (6m) or (6r) or for which personalized registration plates have been issued under s. 341.145 (1) ~~(b) or dual purpose motor homes, motor trucks, motor buses, truck tractors and road tractors or a motor home for which personalized registration plates have been issued under s. 341.145 (1) (a) or any motor bus, truck tractor or road tractor~~, the certificate of registration shall be displayed in a prominent place in the driver's compartment of the vehicle to which the certificate refers. Any person who operates and any person in whose name the vehicle is registered who consents to the operation of any such vehicle without the certificate of registration being so displayed may be required to forfeit not more than \$200.

SECTION 2. 341.13 (1) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.13 (1) (intro.) In addition to the matter specified in s. 341.12 (3), registration plates for automobiles registered pursuant to the monthly series system, except automobiles registered under s. 341.14 (6r) or 341.145 (1) (c), shall comply with the following specifications:

SECTION 3. 341.13 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.13 (2) In addition to the matter specified in s. 341.12 (3), the registration plates for a vehicle registered on the basis of gross weight except a motor truck registered under s. 341.14 (6m) or 341.145 (1) (b), a dual purpose motor home, or a motor home, motor truck, farm truck or dual purpose farm truck regis-

tered under s. 341.14 (1), (1a), (1m), (1q) ~~or~~, (1r) (a) or (6r) or 341.145 (1) (a) or (c) shall indicate the weight class into which the vehicle falls in a manner prescribed by the department. The gross weight which determines the registration fee for a motor truck registered under s. 341.14 (6m) or 341.145 (1) (b), a dual purpose motor home, or a motor home, motor truck, farm truck or dual purpose farm truck registered under s. 341.14 (1), (1a), (1m), (1q) ~~or~~, (1r) (a) or (6r) or 341.145 (1) (a) or (c) shall be shown on its certificate of registration.

SECTION 4. 341.14 (6r) of the statutes is created to read:

341.14 (6r) (a) In this subsection and s. 341.145 (1) (c), "authorized special group" means a special group enumerated in par. (f).

(b) Upon application to register an automobile, station wagon or motor home, or a motor truck, dual purpose motor home or dual purpose farm truck which has a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds, or a farm truck which has a gross weight of not more than 12,000 pounds, by any person who is a resident of this state and a member of an authorized special group, the department shall issue to the person special plates whose colors and design shall indicate that the vehicle is owned by a person who is a member of the applicable special group. An additional fee of \$10 shall be charged for the issuance or reissuance of the plates.

(bm) 1. Upon application to register a vehicle specified in par. (b) by a resident of this state who is the owner of the vehicle, upon payment of the additional fee under par. (b) and submission of a statement by the applicant certifying to the department that the vehicle is leased to a person who qualifies for special plates under par. (b) together with information required of an applicant under par. (b), the depart-

ment shall issue to the owner special plates of the appropriate colors and design under par. (d) or (e) in lieu of the plates which ordinarily would be issued for the vehicle.

2. If the lessor of a vehicle under subd. 1 does not continue to lease the vehicle to the person who qualifies for special plates as certified to the department, the lessor shall dispose of the special plates in a manner prescribed by the department and shall obtain replacement plates for the vehicle. There is no charge in addition to the registration fee for the vehicle, if due, for the issuance of replacement plates under this subdivision.

(c) Special group plates shall display the word "Wisconsin", the name of the applicable authorized special group, a symbol representing the special group, not exceeding one position, and identifying letters or numbers or both, not exceeding 5 positions. The department shall specify the design for special group plates.

(d) The department shall specify the word or words comprising the special group name and the symbol to be displayed upon special group plates for a group associated with a branch of the armed services or a related organization after consultation with the appropriate state or federal representative of that service or organization. Special group plates for a group associated with a branch of the armed services or a related organization shall be colored red, white and blue.

(e) The department shall specify one combination of colors for special group plates for groups or organizations which are not military in nature. The department shall specify the word or words comprising the special group name and the symbol to be displayed upon special group plates for a group or organization which is not military in nature after consultation with the chief executive officer in this state of the group or organization.

(f) The department shall issue special interest group plates under this subsection only for the following authorized special groups:

1. U.S. army.
2. U.S. army reserve.
3. U.S. army veterans.
4. U.S. navy.
5. U.S. navy reserve.
6. U.S. navy veterans.
7. U.S. air force.
8. U.S. air force reserve.
9. U.S. air force veterans.
10. U.S. coast guard.
11. U.S. coast guard reserve.
12. U.S. coast guard veterans.
13. U.S. marine corps.
14. U.S. marine corps reserve.
15. U.S. marine corps veterans.
16. World War I veterans.

17. World War II veterans.
18. Korean War veterans.
19. Vietnam War veterans.
20. Persons awarded the distinguished service cross medal.
21. Persons awarded the air force cross medal.
22. Persons awarded the navy cross medal.
23. Persons awarded the distinguished service medal from any branch of the U.S. armed forces.
24. Persons awarded the silver star medal.
25. Persons awarded the legion merit medal.
26. Persons awarded the distinguished flying cross medal.
27. Persons awarded the soldier's medal.
28. Persons awarded the navy and marine corps medal.
29. Persons awarded the airman's medal.
30. Persons awarded the coast guard medal.
31. Persons awarded the bronze star medal.
32. Persons awarded the purple heart medal.
33. Fire fighters.
34. Rescue squad members.

(g) Except as provided in par. (bm) 1, if an individual in possession of special plates under par. (f) 33 or 34 or of personalized plates under s. 341.145 (1) (c) of the same color and design as special plates under par. (f) 33 or 34 does not maintain membership in the applicable authorized special group during a year which is not a plate issuance year, the individual shall:

1. Dispose of the special plates in a manner prescribed by the department;
2. In addition to the regular application fee, pay a \$4 fee for the issuance of replacement plates; and
3. Return the certificate of title to the department for correction.

SECTION 5. 341.145 (1) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.145 (1) (intro.) In this section, "personalized registration plate" means ~~either~~ any of the following:

SECTION 6. 341.145 (1) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

341.145 (1) (c) A registration plate of the same color and design as provided in s. 341.14 (6r) for a vehicle specified under s. 341.14 (6r), which displays the applicable symbol of the authorized special group to which the person belongs and a registration number composed of letters or numbers, or both, not exceeding 5 positions, requested by the applicant.

SECTION 7. 341.145 (1g) of the statutes is renumbered 341.145 (1g) (a) and amended to read:

341.145 (1g) (a) The department may issue personalized ~~license~~ registration plates under sub. (1) (b) to a person who qualifies for special plates under s. 341.14 (6m).

SECTION 8. 341.145 (1g) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

341.145 (1g) (b) The department may issue personalized registration plates under sub. (1) (c) to a person who qualifies for special plates under s. 341.14 (6r).

SECTION 9. 341.145 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.145 (3) In addition to the regular application fee provided under s. 341.25 (1) (a), (b), (c) or (j) or (2) or 341.26 (3) (a) or (am), the applicant for a personalized registration plate shall pay a fee of \$10 for the issuance of the plate and \$10 in each succeeding year to maintain the plate. The fee for reissuance of a personalized plate shall be \$10. An applicant for person-

alized plates issued under sub. (1) (b) or (c) shall not be required to pay the \$10 fee for initial issuance of the plates but shall be required to pay \$10 in each succeeding year to maintain the plates.

SECTION 10. 341.16 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

341.16 (1) (b) Upon satisfactory proof of the loss or destruction of a special plate issued under s. 341.14 (6m) (a) or (6r) (b) or a special personalized plate issued under s. 341.145 (1) (b) or (c) and upon payment of a fee of \$5 for each plate, the department shall issue a replacement.