



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2005 Wisconsin Act 260
[2005 Assembly Bill 479]

Golf Wisconsin License Plates

Under **current law**, any group or organization may apply to the Department of Transportation (DOT) for designation as an authorized special group. If the application is approved, members of the authorized special group may obtain special distinguishing license plates for certain vehicles, including automobiles and motor homes that are owned or leased by special group members. A fee, in addition to the regular registration fee for the particular kind of vehicle, is assessed for the issuance or reissuance of most special plates.

Before October 2, 1998, authorized special groups whose members may obtain special distinguishing license plates were specifically enumerated in state law. **Current law** provides that specific enumeration in state law of authorized special groups is limited to those special groups enumerated before October 2, 1998. Members of six special groups enumerated in state law pay an additional annual fee as a tax deductible contribution.

2005 Wisconsin Act 260 establishes an authorized special group specifically enumerated in state law for persons interested in obtaining special distinguishing registration plates supporting the efforts of the WPGA Junior Foundation, Inc. (Foundation) to provide opportunities, enjoyment, and education to junior golfers in this state and promoting golf in this state. In addition to the regular vehicle registration fee, special group members are required to pay a \$15 fee for issuance or reissuance of the special plates and an additional \$25 annual fee, 75% of which provides funds to the Foundation and 25% of which is provided to the Department of Tourism (Tourism) to promote golf in this state. The Act requires Tourism to enter into an agreement with the Foundation with respect to funds to be provided to the Foundation, and the agreement must grant Tourism authority, without fee to Tourism, to use any applicable trademark of the Foundation with respect to the special plates. The Act also requires the Foundation to annually submit an audited financial statement of its use of these funds, and discontinues funding if the Foundation dissolves or loses its tax-exempt status under federal law. DOT must specify the design of the special plates after consultation with Tourism and with the chief executive officer of the Foundation.

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.state.wi.us/>.

Also, the **Act** provides a one-time appropriation of \$43,600 to the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to cover DMV's costs for the plates created under the Act.

Effective Date: The Act takes effect on November 1, 2006.

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