



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2005 Wisconsin Act 472**  
[2005 Assembly Bill 112]

**Motor Vehicle Registration Plates  
for Disabled Veterans**

Under **current law**, a person who submits to the Department of Transportation (DOT) a certification from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs that the person sustained injuries while in active military service that limit or impair the person's ability to walk may obtain from DOT special distinguishing registration plates for certain vehicles, including automobiles, light-duty trucks, and motor homes, that identify the owner or lessee of the vehicle as a disabled veteran.

**Current law** requires the design of special plates for disabled veterans to include a light blue background, a white border, and mostly blue lettering but with the word "VET" and the plate numbers displayed in red.

**2005 Wisconsin Act 472** allows DOT to determine the design of special plates for disabled veterans, but requires these plates to be colored red, white, and blue.

**Current law** also requires DOT to redesign and reissue every seven years most motor vehicle registration plates for certain vehicles, primarily automobiles and light-duty trucks. However, special plates for disabled veterans are exempt from this seven-year redesign and reissuance requirement. **This Act** makes special plates for disabled veterans subject to the seven-year redesign and reissuance requirement.

**2005 Wisconsin Act 472** requires DOT to consult the Department of Veterans Affairs before specifying the design of the disabled veteran plates. Also, the **Act** provides that prior to consultation with the DOT as required under the Act, the Department of Veterans Affairs shall solicit input from the state's veterans organizations regarding the design of the special disabled veteran's plates issued under the Act.

**Effective Date:** The effective date of 2005 Wisconsin Act 472 is October 1, 2006.

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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/>.