



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2015 Wisconsin Act 227
[2015 Senate Bill 538]

Special Group Registration Plates

This Act modifies laws related to the issuance of special group plates by the Department of Transportation (DOT).

2015 Wisconsin Act 227 requires the DOT to post notice of a group's application for designation as a special group on its website along with a description of the process a person may use to object to such designation. A person has 30 days after this posting to object in writing. If no objection is made, the DOT must designate the group as an authorized special group and issue the plate.

If a timely objection to the designation of the plate is made, the application is referred to the Legislature's transportation committees for passive review. If these committees approve the group for designation, the DOT must designate the group as an authorized special group and issue the plate.

The Act also requires a group's application for designation as an authorized special group to include the signatures of at least 500 Wisconsin residents who intend to obtain the group's special plates when available, and requires payment to the DOT of \$15,500 for the initial costs of production of the special plates. Each group must identify in its application if it would like the DOT to collect an annual voluntary payment of \$25 from each recipient of the group's special plate. If so, the proceeds from these payments would be provided to the group or a designated agency. The Act limits the purposes for which this money may be used.

The Act provides a process for terminating the issuance of a group's special plate if fewer than 500 special plates remain valid for vehicles after the third year of issuance. Special plates for groups that have previously been specifically enumerated by statute are unaffected by the Act.

Effective date: October 1, 2016

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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.wisconsin.gov>.