
Wisconsin Legislative Council

ACT MEMO



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2023 Wisconsin Act 161
[2023 Senate Bill 654]

**Applications for Vehicle Titles by
Nonresident Insurance Carriers**

Wisconsin law generally prohibits a nonresident from applying for a certificate of title for a motor vehicle. An administrative rule promulgated by the Department of Transportation, however, enumerates various circumstances under which a nonresident may apply for a certificate of title for a motor vehicle. Under prior law, this rule permitted a nonresident insurance company that acquires ownership of a vehicle titled in Wisconsin through payment of a total loss claim to apply for a salvage vehicle certificate of title for the vehicle.

2023 Wisconsin Act 161 modifies the provision in the rule above permitting a nonresident insurance company to apply for a salvage vehicle certificate of title. The act permits a nonresident insurance company headquartered in another state with a business address located in another state that acquires ownership of a vehicle title in Wisconsin through payment of a total loss claim to apply for a certificate of title, a salvage vehicle certificate of title, or any other title issued by the department for the vehicle.

Effective date: May 1, 2024

For a full history of the bill, visit the Legislature's [bill history page](#).

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