
Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO



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2021 Assembly Bill 578

Assembly Amendment 1

BACKGROUND

Under current law, one method for a person to make an anatomical gift before death is to affix a statement or symbol to the person's driver's license or identification card that indicates that the person has made an anatomical gift. [s. 157.06 (5), Stats.] The Department of Health Services (DHS) is authorized to establish a Wisconsin donor registry that contains records of anatomical gifts, and the Department of Transportation (DOT) is required to cooperate with DHS in establishing the donor registry. [s. 157.06 (20), Stats.] Relevant to the bill and the amendment, in general, and subject to certain exceptions, if a child is at least 15 and one-half years old or is emancipated, the child may make an anatomical gift before death. [s. 157.06 (4) (a), Stats.]

2021 ASSEMBLY BILL 578

2021 Assembly Bill 578 requires the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to provide state residents who are at least 15 and one-half years of age, or emancipated, and apply for a hunting, fishing, or trapping license, an option to be included on the donor registry. Specifically, the bill requires DNR to include on an application for a hunting, fishing, or trapping license a question as to whether the applicant wishes to include his or her name as a donor of an anatomical gift on the donor registry. If the applicant answers yes, DNR must then transmit the information to DOT and DOT is required to record the donor authorization on the donor registry. Additionally, the bill requires that a part of each conservation card be printed to serve as a record of an anatomical gift, with space for the card holder to indicate that he or she wishes to be a donor of an anatomical gift. The bill also requires DNR to produce, and issue upon request, a separate donor card that includes a space for a license applicant to indicate that he or she wishes to be a donor of an anatomical gift and that serves as a record of an anatomical gift.

The bill appropriates funds from s. 20.370 (9) (ma), Stats., general program operations-state funds, for the collection and administration of the anatomical gift donor information created in the bill.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Amendment 1 changes the minimum age to be a donor of an anatomical gift before death from 15 and one-half years old to 15 years old. The amendment also removes the appropriation under s. 20.370 (9) (ma), Stats., to fund the collection and administration of the anatomical gift donor information in the bill.

BILL HISTORY

On February 22, 2022, after the Assembly Committee on Sporting Heritage held an executive session on the bill, Representatives Thiesfeldt and Pronschinske offered Assembly Amendment 1. On February 23, 2022, the Assembly adopted the amendment on a voice vote, and passed the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 96; Noes, 0.

REL:ksm