Wisconsin Legislative Council AMENDMENT MEMO



Memo published: June 14, 2023

Contact: David Moore, Senior Staff Attorney

2023 Senate Bill 35

Senate Amendments 1 and 2

2023 SENATE BILL 35

2023 Senate Bill 35 requires every application for original registration of a motor vehicle to include a place for the applicant to provide emergency contact information, which must include the emergency contact's full name, date of birth, residential address, phone number, and relationship to the applicant. The vehicle registration application must also include a statement that a form on which the applicant may provide emergency contact information is available on the department's internet site and at local examining centers.

The bill also requires the Department of Transportation (DOT), as part of every application for an original, duplicate, reinstated, reissued, or renewal driver's license or endorsement, to inquire whether the applicant wants to provide emergency contact information, as described above. It also requires DOT to make available on its internet site and at each local examining center a form on which a vehicle registrant or driver's license applicant may voluntarily provide emergency contact information to the department.

Under the bill, if an applicant provides emergency contact information, DOT must record that information in its file for the person. DOT must also provide a method for a law enforcement agency that reasonably identifies a person to electronically request and automatically receive the emergency contact information recorded in the person's file.

SENATE AMENDMENT 1

Senate Amendment 1 to Senate Bill 35 makes three changes to the bill. First, it limits the bill's provisions to driver's license applicants; as such, it removes the requirement that every vehicle registration application include a place for the applicant to provide emergency contact information. Second, it prohibits DOT from disclosing the emergency contact of an individual who provides that information, except to that individual or law enforcement. Finally, the amendment delays the date the bill takes effect until the first day of the sixth month beginning after publication.

SENATE AMENDMENT 2

Senate Amendment 2 to Senate Bill 35 removes the requirement that a person who elects to provide DOT with emergency contact information provide the emergency contact's date of birth.

BILL HISTORY

Senator James offered Senate Amendment 1 to Senate Bill 35 on March 28, 2023, and Senator Nass and Senator James offered Senate Amendment 2 to the bill on June 7, 2023. On June 7, 2023, the Senate adopted both amendments and then passed Senate Bill 35, as amended, all on voice votes.

- 2 -

For a full history of the bill, visit the Legislature's <u>bill history page</u>.

DM:ksm