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1995 ASSEMBLY BILL 1037

March 14, 1996 – Introduced by Representatives Schneider, Musser, Boyle, Gronemus, Kreuser, Ryba, Seratti, Wasserman and Ziegelbauer, cosponsored by Senator Moen. Referred to Committee on Highways and Transportation.

AN ACT *to amend* 341.145 (4) of the statutes; **relating to:** allowing a motor vehicle lessee to reserve the right to continued use of a personalized registration plate.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the department of transportation (DOT) issues personalized license plates, which display a unique combination of letters or numbers, or both, chosen by the recipient of the plates. The personalized plates are reserved for the continued use by the recipient in successive registration periods. Once issued, DOT may issue personalized plates to a person other than the original recipient only if the recipient so authorizes or if the recipient fails to renew the personalized plates.

This bill reserves the right to continued use of personalized plates in successive registration periods for the lessee of a vehicle, rather than for the lessor of the vehicle who, as the owner and registrant of the vehicle, is the recipient of the plates.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

- **Section 1.** 341.145 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:
- 341.145 (4) Each personalized registration plate issued shall be reserved for the recipient or, in the case of a leased vehicle, for the lessee in succeeding registration periods and shall not be duplicated for issuance to any other person if the recipient or lessee maintains the plate, unless the recipient or, in the case of a

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leased vehicle, the lessee authorizes the issuance of the plate to another person. If the recipient or, in the case of a leased vehicle, the lessee does not maintain the plate for 2 successive years which are not plate issuance years or if the recipient or lessee does not specifically request reissuance of the personalized registration plate by the end of the month in which the plate expires in a plate issuance year, the department may issue the personalized registration plate to another applicant. Registration plate numbers issued as special numbers prior to January 1, 1979, will be reserved for issuance as personalized registration plates in the same manner as prescribed for personalized registration plates in this section.

10 (END)