GOVERNOR'S VETO MESSAGE

March 29, 2024

To the Honorable Members of the Assembly:

I am vetoing Assembly Bill 395 in its entirety.

This bill would establish requirements for peer-to-peer motor vehicle sharing programs, including license requirements, safety recall responsibilities, disclosure and notification requirements, record retention requirements, and motor vehicle insurance coverage requirements under which the sharing program, vehicle owner or vehicle driver must have vehicle liability insurance with at least the minimum statutory coverage amounts required. The bill would also require the sharing program to assume liability for a vehicle owner for bodily injury, property damage, uninsured motorist and personal injury losses, except in the case of certain acts by the vehicle's owner. Under the bill, insurance maintained by the sharing program must act as backup coverage in cases where the vehicle owner's or driver's coverage has lapsed or does not provide the required coverage. The bill would also clarify that sharing programs and shared vehicle owners are not in the vehicle rental business and are therefore exempt from local rental car taxes and state rental vehicle fees if applicable sales and use taxes were paid at the time of purchase.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to the bill's inadequate insurance coverage requirements. Under the bill, sharing programs, vehicle owners, and vehicle drivers would only be required to have coverage for the minimum statutory insurance coverage amounts, which are outdated and too low to adequately cover the costs associated with medical bills and property damage, potentially leaving victims on the hook for the remaining costs. I am open to signing a version of this bill at a future date that provides more adequate insurance coverage requirements.

I also object to the local rental car tax and state rental vehicle fees exemption in this bill. Tourism initiatives, such as the continued financial support for the Wisconsin Center District, would likely be impacted by reduced local revenues if this bill were signed into law.

Respectfully submitted, TONY EVERS Governor