



JOEL KITCHENS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 1ST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

SB 543: Special Registration Plates Associated with Whitetails Unlimited
Testimony of State Representative Joel Kitchens
Senate Committee on Transportation and Veteran Affairs
January 21, 2016

Thank you, Chairman Petrowski and members of the Senate Committee on Transportation and Veteran Affairs for hearing my testimony in support of SB 543.

Founded in 1982 in Sturgeon Bay, WI, Whitetails Unlimited (WTU) is a national non-profit conservation organization that has dedicated their resources to the betterment of white-tailed deer and their environment. SB 543 authorizes the production of specialty plates for the Wisconsin Chapter of WTU and would help the organization raise funds to support educational programs, wildlife habitat enhancement and acquisition, and the preservation of the hunting tradition and shooting sports for future generations. In the past, WTU projects have utilized funds for research, wildlife agency assistance, habitat enhancement/acquisition, college scholarships, public education materials, hunter safety/education, anti-poaching measures, and cooperative projects with other conservation organizations.

WTU has spent over \$64.4 million dollars for the betterment of whitetail deer and the promotion of safe and sustainable hunting practices. Hunting is one of Wisconsin's great traditions, and I am proud to bring this bill before you. WTU has grown to include 400 chapters nationwide, and SB 543 will help provide for their continued success. This bill will also support the revenue our state and local communities receive every hunting season. Thousands of dollars go into sales and other expenses related to deer hunting in Wisconsin, and it is important to continue to support this portion of our industry and tourism.

I hope you will support this bill and WTU's efforts to better the whitetail deer and their environment. Thank you for your time and consideration.



JANEL BRANDTJEN

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 22ND ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Thank you Chairman Petrowski and the entire Transportation and Veterans Affairs Committee for allowing me to testify today on behalf of Senate Bill 543.

We here in the legislature have an opportunity to create awareness to one of the most devastating illnesses known to this world, childhood cancer. According to CURESEARCH for Children's Cancer;

- Every day, 43 children are diagnosed with cancer.
- 12% of children diagnosed with cancer do not survive.
- Children's cancer affects all ethnic, gender and socio-economic groups.
- The average age of children diagnosed is six.
- More than 40,000 children undergo treatment for cancer each year.
- 60% of children who survive cancer suffer late-effects, such as infertility, heart failure and secondary cancers.

This bill provides those of us who wish to draw attention to this disease the ability to purchase a special license plate to "Help Cure Childhood Cancer" and support the MACC fund at no cost to the taxpayers.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janel Brandtjen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "B".

State Representative Janel Brandtjen

(608) 267-2367

Rep.brandtjen@legis.wisconsin.gov



6117 Monona Drive • Madison, WI 53716 • 608-221-0383 • Fax 608 221-2788
Info@wisconsinnurses.org • www.wisconsinnurses.org

TO: Chairperson Petrowski and Members of the Senate Transportation and Veterans Affairs Committee

FROM: Gina Dennik-Champion, MSN, RN, MSHA
Executive Director Wisconsin Nurses Association

DATE: January 21, 2016

RE: Support of SB 543 and AB 702 relating to special registration plates associated with nurses, the nursing profession, and other designated groups registration numbers on special registration plates, and making appropriations.

The Wisconsin Nurses Association wants to express our appreciation to you Chairperson Petrowski for scheduling a hearing today on SB 543. We would also like to thank the members of the Senate Transportation and Veterans Affairs Committee for receiving our testimony. SB 543 and the companion bill AB 702 establishes designated special groups for persons interested in obtaining special license plates expressing support for specifically named groups. WNA applauds the inclusion of the nurses and our nursing profession as one of these designated special groups in this legislation.

My name is Gina Dennik-Champion and I am the Executive Director of the Wisconsin Nurses Association. WNA supports efforts that can have a significant impact on the sustainability of a nursing workforce for the future. It was identified in the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development supported 2014 RN Workforce Report, nurses reported that the cost of tuition and fees as the top barrier to additional nursing education across all regions. Recognizing this financial burden, WNA actively supports the concept of providing educational scholarships to nurses using the fees collected through the issuing of a special license plate. WNA believes that SB 543 and AB 702 is a mechanism that can increase the nursing supply, visibility, and pride regarding the nursing profession throughout the state.

WNA is confident that the \$25.00 that is collected from the purchase of each nurse specialty license plate will create a sizeable monetary fund that will contribute to sustaining a prepared nursing workforce for the future. This in turn will support the supply of nurses needed to care for the people of Wisconsin. WNA wishes to extend sincere thanks to Senator Frank Lasee for sponsoring SB 543 and Representative Joel Kitchens for sponsoring AB 702. We ask that SB 543/AB 702 earn the support of all of the members of this Committee, and request a swift passage.

Thank you again Chairperson Petrowski for scheduling a hearing on this bill today.

I am available to answer any questions you may have.

Reference: Wisconsin 2014 Registered Nursing Survey Report, July 2015. Wisconsin Center for Nursing.
www.wicenterfornursing.org

Testimony for Public Hearing
Senate Committee on Transportation and Veterans Affairs
January 21, 2016

Janis K. Bauman
525 Evergreen Trail
Portage, WI 53901

To: Senate Committee on Transportation and Veterans Affairs

S.B. No. 543– Special registration plates.

Good Morning Chairman Petrowski and Committee Members,

My name is Jan Bauman and I am Chief Nurse Executive for Divine Savior Healthcare in Portage and also an active member of the Wisconsin National Guard. Today I am representing Wisconsin Organization of Nurse Executives (W-ONE). I am here in support of this bill for special registration plates.

We want to thank Senator Lazich for authoring this bill along with Senators Lasee and Wanggaard and the Representatives who co-sponsored, Kitchens, Brandtjen, Ripp and Vos. And I thank each of you for your time to listen and consider S.B. 543.

We have been working with Senator Lazich since 2011 to advance a license plate for nurses, our organization has devoted numerous hours of preparation, planning, and collaboration with legislators to focus on this license plate. To bring this bill to fruition would impact the nurses in Wisconsin in multiple ways. It will give us a strategy for raising funds for nursing education, professional development and scholarships. It can expand the opportunities for nurses to lead collaborative improvement efforts in population health, as well as assist in ensuring nurses engage in lifelong learning.

The cost for advanced nursing degrees can be cost-prohibitive, and therefore missing opportunities for nurses to fill critical positions such as educators, advanced practice nurses, CRNA's and nurse executives.

We are confident we can meet the requirements of the bill, we have partnered with WNA (Wisconsin Nurses Association) and many other nursing organizations who have endorsed the license plate bill and committed to its promotion. There are approximately 95,000 RN's, LPN's, and student nurses across our state that can support this effort and also benefit from the education fund to continue their education.

Thank you for your valuable time and consideration of this very important bill.

Sincerely,

Janis K. Bauman