



Legislative Fiscal Bureau

One East Main, Suite 301 • Madison, WI 53703 • (608) 266-3847 • Fax: (608) 267-6873
Email: fiscal.bureau@legis.wisconsin.gov • Website: <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/lfb>

September 26, 2023

TO: Members
Joint Committee on Finance

FROM: Bob Lang, Director

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 60/Assembly Bill 66: Motor Vehicle Title Fee Waiver for Immediate Family Members of Deceased Persons

Senate Bill 60 (SB 60) was introduced on February 14, 2023, and recommended for passage by the Committee on Transportation and Local Government on May 10, 2023, on a vote of 5-0. On September 11, 2023, Senate Amendment 1 (SA 1) to the bill was adopted by the Senate, and SB 60, as amended, was passed as amended by the Senate on a voice vote. The bill was then messaged to the Assembly and referred to the Joint Committee on Finance.

Assembly Bill 66 (AB 66) was introduced on February 23, 2023, and referred to the Committee on Transportation. On June 6, 2023, the Committee recommended AB 66, as amended by Assembly Amendment 1 (AA 1), for passage on a vote of 12-0. On September 22, 2023, AB 66, as amended, was referred to the Joint Committee of Finance.

BACKGROUND

Under current law, persons acquiring a motor vehicle in the state by purchase, gift, or any other means must pay a title transfer fee of \$164.50 to the Department of Transportation (DOT). However, the fee is waived when motor vehicle is transferred from a deceased person to their surviving spouse or domestic partner. Title and title transfer fee revenues are deposited to the transportation fund.

BILL SUMMARY

SB 60/AB 66 would extend the current law title transfer fee waiver to the immediate family member of a deceased person when they receive a transferred vehicle from the deceased person. An immediate family member is defined as a spouse, grandparent, parent, sibling child, stepchild, stepparent, or grandchild, or the spouse of a grandparent, parent, sibling, child, stepchild, stepparent, or grandchild. SA 1/AA 1 would specify that the effective date of the bill is the first day of the

seventh month beginning after publication of the act.

FISCAL EFFECT

DOT indicates that the current law title transfer fee waiver was applied to 7,168 transfers, or 1.09% of total transfers in calendar year 2022, which resulted in an estimated \$1,179,100 in total fees being waived in that year. The Department estimates that SB 60/AB 66 would result in an additional 9,722 waivers being granted annually in the first full year of the provisions being in place, which would result in a revenue reduction of \$1,599,300, or \$133,300 per month, to the transportation fund.

Prepared by: Peter Mosher