
Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO



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2021 Senate Bill 429

Senate Amendment 2 and Senate Substitute Amendment 1

2021 SENATE BILL 429

2021 Senate Bill 429 requires the Department of Transportation (DOT) to begin replacing motor vehicle registration plates on a rolling seven-year basis, beginning February 1, 2022, with registration plates constructed according to specified design criteria. Under the bill, registration plates must be constructed with aluminum tempered to a hardness of 0.027 inches and prismatic sheeting with embedded security features. The sheeting must be of a type successfully used by the manufacturer in multiple jurisdictions and must meet specified criteria for reflectivity.

Under the bill, when a person renews the registration of a vehicle for which new plates are required, the person must pay a fee of \$6.50 for the new plates. The bill also raises the fee to replace a registration plate that is lost or destroyed from \$2 per plate to \$3.25 per plate.

SENATE AMENDMENT 2

Senate Amendment 2 raises the fee for replacement registration plates to \$4 per plate, and extends the length of time during which DOT must replace all current registration plates with plates that meet the bill's design specifications. Under the amendment, DOT must complete the issuance of new plates no later than July 1, 2022. The amendment also changes the date on which DOT must begin issuing new registration plates from February 1, 2022 to July 1, 2022, and provides that this obligation takes effect either on the date the Joint Committee on Finance approves ongoing funding for the issuance of new registration plates or on July 1, 2023, whichever is later.

SENATE SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1

Senate Substitute Amendment 1 to Senate Bill 429 is identical to Senate Bill 429, as amended by Senate Amendment 2.

BILL HISTORY

Senator Wanggaard offered Senate Amendment 2 to Senate Bill 429 on January 12, 2022. On January 19, 2022, the Senate Committee on Transportation and Local Government voted unanimously to recommend adoption of Senate Amendment 2 and passage of Senate Bill 429, as amended.

Senator Wanggaard offered Senate Substitute Amendment 1 to Senate Bill 429 on January 27, 2022. On February 9, 2022, the Joint Committee on Finance recommended adoption of the substitute amendment and passage of the bill, as amended, both on votes of Ayes, 15; Noes, 0. On February 15, 2022, the Senate voted to adopt the substitute amendment, on a voice vote, and passed the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 30; Noes, 2.

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