



# Van H. Wanggaard

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## **SENATE PASSES BILL WAIVING VEHICLE TRANSFER FEES Bipartisan Legislation Eases Grieving Process for Surviving Spouses**

MADISON – A bill that would waive the state’s \$69 title transfer fee when removing the name of a deceased spouse from the motor vehicle title cleared the State Senate today unanimously. The bill now goes to the Assembly, where it is expected to gain similar support.

“When a spouse dies, it is an emotionally and financially difficult time for the surviving loved ones,” said Senator Van Wanggaard (R-Racine). “While it may seem like a small fee, this fee can be an obstacle to moving through the grieving process. This bill helps individuals heal when they are ready to do so.”

Under current law, any time there is an owner change to a motor vehicle title, a \$69.50 fee and supplemental fee is attached. When transferring upon the death of a spouse, the \$7.50 supplemental fee is waived. Senate Bill 162 waives the entire title transfer fee when transferring the motor vehicle title to a surviving spouse or domestic partner. Based on last year’s applications, the bill is expected to decrease revenues to the state by about \$300,000 per year.

“This is a great example of everyone working together,” said Wanggaard. “I appreciate Governor Evers allowing the bill to pass before the state budget, and my co-authors, Senator Mark Miller, and Representatives Sondy Pope, and Janel Brandtjen for their efforts to get this common-sense bill passed on a unanimous basis.”

The same bill passed the Assembly in the closing days of the last legislative session, but failed to get through the Senate before the session expired.

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