



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P. O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

TO: Assembly Committee on Insurance
FROM: Senator Luther Olsen and Representative Bob Kulp
DATE: Thursday, January 14, 2016
SUBJECT: Testimony for Assembly Bill 649

Thank you Chairman Petersen and members of the Assembly Committee on Insurance for holding a hearing and allowing us to testify in support of Assembly Bill 649.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT) currently has a system that allows certain groups that meet a set of requirements to self-insure. In order to qualify for self-insurance, an applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Fill out the Self-Insurance Certificate Application
- Own more than 25 motor vehicles
- Have sufficient assets to pay for judgments of motor vehicle accidents

It was brought to our attention that some religious groups have found that being required to pay for car insurance from a major provider is against their religious beliefs. This bill will address their concerns by allowing religious sects to be able to qualify for self-insurance in addition to the current requirements. This modification will not impact other self-insurance applicants or those who have motor vehicle insurance from an insurance company.

Again, thank you for holding a hearing today. We ask for your support on Assembly Bill 649 and we would be more than happy to answer any questions.