2015 SENATE BILL 673

February 1, 2016 – Introduced by Senator Lᴀssᴀ. Referred to Committee on Transportation and Veterans Affairs.

1 AN ACT **relating to:** the removal of trees from the highway right–of–way by

2 Charles Automotive in the village of Coloma.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the Department of Transportation to issue a permit to the Charles Automotive dealership in the village of Coloma authorizing the removal of vegetation that obstructs the outdoor advertising sign on the dealership property. This bill exempts Charles Automotive from the required payment to DOT per tree removed, but requires Charles Automotive to replace the vegetation removed with a windbreak hedge.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

3 **Sᴇᴄᴛɪᴏɴ 1. Nonstatutory provisions.**

4 (1) The department of transportation shall issue a permit under section 84.305

5 (2) of the statutes to the Charles Automotive dealership in the village of Coloma in

6 Waushara County authorizing the removal of vegetation that obstructs the outdoor

1   advertising sign on the dealership property. Notwithstanding section 84.305 (5) (a)

2   and (f) 1. of the statutes, the permit may not require Charles Automotive to

3   compensate the department of transportation for the removal of trees.

4   (2) Prior to removing vegetation subject to the permit issued under subsection

5   (1), Charles Automotive shall plant a windbreak hedge, as defined in section 84.04

6   (1) (f) of the statutes, as near as practicable to the vegetation to be removed. Charles

7   Automotive shall plant the windbreak hedge as part of a plan prepared by a

8   landscape architect registered under chapter 443 of the statutes and approved by the

9   department of transportation.

10   **(END)**