



2023 SENATE BILL 313

May 24, 2023 - Introduced by Senators JAMES, BALLWEG and MARKLEIN, cosponsored by Representatives PENTERMAN, S. JOHNSON, ALLEN, C. ANDERSON, ARMSTRONG, BEHNKE, BODDEN, CONLEY, DITTRICH, GOEBEN, GUNDRUM, KITCHENS, KURTZ, MOSES, MURPHY, OLDENBURG, ORTIZ-VELEZ, PALMERI, RETTINGER, SCHMIDT, SPIROS, STUBBS and BROOKS. Referred to Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 346.49 (2); and **to create** 343.32 (2) (bL) and 346.49 (2g) of the
2 statutes; **relating to:** increased penalties for failing to stop for a school bus.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill increases the penalties for failing to stop for a school bus that is stopped and displaying flashing red lights.

Current law requires motorists approaching a school bus stopped on a public road and displaying flashing red lights to stop at least 20 feet from the bus and to remain stopped until the bus resumes motion or the flashing red warning lights are turned off. A motorist who violates this requirement may be required to forfeit \$30 to \$300. The bill increases the penalty to a forfeiture of \$300 to \$1,000.

Under current law, DOT may adopt, by rule, a demerit point system for determining when to suspend a person's operating privilege for repeatedly violating traffic laws. Under this system, DOT may assess demerit points against the driving record of a person convicted of violations of certain traffic laws. The bill requires DOT to assess three demerit points against the driving record of a vehicle operator who violates the requirement to stop for a school bus.

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

3 **SECTION 1.** 343.32 (2) (bL) of the statutes is created to read:

