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## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

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**2013 Wisconsin Act 34**  
[2013 Senate Bill 135]

**Permits for Vehicles Transporting  
Raw Forest Products Near the  
Michigan Border**

*Under current law*, the Department of Transportation may issue annual, consecutive-month, or multiple-trip permits for vehicles that exceed statutory limits on size, weight, or load to transport loads near the Michigan-Wisconsin state line. Under prior law, these permits authorized:

- The transportation of loads over any class of highway for a distance not to exceed 11 miles from the Michigan-Wisconsin state line.
- The transportation of exclusively peeled or unpeeled forest products cut crosswise, wood chips, or forestry biomass anywhere upon U.S. Highway 2 in Iron County, Ashland County, and certain parts of Bayfield County if the vehicle is traveling between Wisconsin and Michigan and does not violate length or weight limitations established, as of April 28, 2004, under Michigan law.
- The transportation of exclusively peeled or unpeeled forest products cut crosswise, wood chips, or forestry biomass upon U.S. Highway 2 from State Highway 13 in the City of Ashland through Hart Lake Road in Bayfield County.

**2013 Wisconsin Act 34** adds Florence County to the list of places a vehicle operating under a Wisconsin-Michigan border permit, as provided in the second of the circumstances described above, may operate. The Act also removes the reference to April 28, 2004, so a vehicle may qualify for the exception so long as it does not violate whatever length or weight limitations are then in effect under Michigan law.

**Effective date:** July 7, 2013

**Prepared by:** David Moore, Staff Attorney

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.