

1971 Assembly Bill 802

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CHAPTER 205, Laws of 1971

AN ACT to create 345.19 of the statutes, relating to authorizing certain not guilty pleas by mail.

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

345.19 of the statutes is created to read:

345.19 DEFENDANT TO PLEAD; MOTOR VEHICLE AND MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS. If a summons or citation is issued by a police officer for a violation of any municipal ordinance or of chs. 194 or 340 to 348 to a defendant who, if a natural person, resides or, if a corporation, has its principal place of business outside the county in which the judge or justice is located, the defendant may enter a plea of not guilty based on such summons or citation by registered letter to the judge or justice at the address indicated on the summons or citation, the letter to show the defendant's return address. Such letter may include a request for trial during normal daytime business hours. Upon receipt of the letter, the judge or justice shall reply by certified mail to the defendant's address setting forth a time and place for trial, such time to be during normal business hours if requested by the defendant. The reply shall include the warrant and complaint and the date

of the trial shall be at least 10 days from the mailing by the judge or justice. Nothing in this section forbids the setting of the trial at any time convenient to all parties concerned.
