

1991 Assembly Bill 846

Date of enactment: April 2, 1992
Date of publication*: April 16, 1992

1991 WISCONSIN ACT 142

AN ACT *to renumber and amend* 347.25 (1r); *to amend* 347.25 (1); and *to create* 347.25 (1r) (b) of the statutes, relating to: pulsating or flashing headlamps on ambulances and fire department vehicles.

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

SECTION 1. 347.25 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

347.25 (1) Except as provided in subs. (1m) (a), (1r) (a) and (1s), an authorized emergency vehicle may be equipped with one or more flashing, oscillating or rotating red lights, except that ambulances and fire department equipment may be equipped with red or red and white lights, and shall be so equipped when the operator thereof is exercising the privileges granted by s. 346.03. The lights shall be so designed and mounted as to be plainly visible and understandable from a distance of 500 feet both during normal sunlight and during hours of darkness. No operator of an authorized emergency vehicle may use the warning lights except when responding to an emergency call or when in pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law, when responding to but not upon returning from a fire alarm or when necessarily parked on a highway in a position which is likely to be hazardous to traffic using the highway.

SECTION 2. 347.25 (1r) of the statutes is renumbered 347.25 (1r) (a), and 347.25 (1r) (a) 2., as renumbered, is amended to read:

347.25 (1r) (a) 2. If the state or any local authority intends to equip its police vehicles as authorized under ~~par. (a)~~ subd. 1., the state or the local authority shall give

notice of its intent as a class 2 notice under ch. 985 at least 90 days before so equipping the first vehicle.

SECTION 3. 347.25 (1r) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

347.25 (1r) (b) 1. a. A vehicle of a fire department under s. 340.01 (3) (c) or an ambulance under s. 340.01 (3) (g) may be equipped so that the high beams of its headlamps pulsate or flash alternately at a rate of 70 to 90 pulses or flashes per minute. The pulsating or flashing headlamps may be used only when the warning lamps authorized under sub. (1) are in use.

b. If any local authority intends to equip its vehicles as authorized under subd. 1. a., the local authority shall give notice of its intent as a class 2 notice under ch. 985 at least 90 days before so equipping the first vehicle.

2. a. A sheriff or others designated by the county board may authorize that an ambulance under s. 340.01 (3) (i) be equipped so that the high beams of its headlamps pulsate or flash alternately at a rate of 70 to 90 pulses or flashes per minute. The pulsating or flashing headlamps may be used only when the warning lamps authorized under sub. (1) are in use.

b. If the sheriff or others designated by the county board intend to authorize any ambulance under s. 340.01 (3) (i) to be equipped as authorized under subd. 2. a., the local authority shall give notice of its intent as a class 2 notice under ch. 985 at least 90 days before authorizing the first vehicle to be so equipped.