

1999 ASSEMBLY BILL 507

October 5, 1999 – Introduced by Representatives SYKORA, KREIBICH, BRANDEMUEHL, FREESE, GOETSCH, HAHN, HANDRICK, HUNDERTMARK, KAUFERT, LADWIG, MONTGOMERY, MUSSER, OWENS, PETTIS, PLOUFF, RYBA, SERATTI, SPILLNER, TURNER, VRAKAS and PETROWSKI, cosponsored by Senators ZIEN, SCHULTZ, BRESKE, A. LASEE, WELCH, ROESSLER and CLAUSING. Referred to Committee on Highway Safety.

1 AN ACT *to amend* 346.03 (4) (a) of the statutes; **relating to:** exempting certain
2 police vehicles exceeding the speed limit from the requirement of giving visual
3 and audible signals.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the operator of an authorized emergency vehicle is exempt from certain traffic regulations, including stopping, direction and speed restrictions, when responding to an emergency call, pursuing an actual or suspected violator of the law or responding to a fire alarm. In most circumstances, the exemption applies only when the operator is giving visual and audible signals to warn other traffic. A law enforcement officer operating a police vehicle, however, may exceed the speed limit without giving visual and audible signals (silent run) under certain circumstances, including for the purpose of obtaining evidence of a speed violation.

This bill provides that the silent run speed limit exemption for police vehicles also applies if an officer is engaged in certifying equipment for use in detecting speed violations.

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

4 SECTION 1. 346.03 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

