



DAVID BRANDEMUEHL

State Representative
49th Assembly District

TO: Members, Assembly Transportation Committee

FROM: Rep. David Brandemuehl, Chair *David*

DATE: June 1, 2000

RE: Notice of DOT public hearing on Trans 276

Attached is a copy of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's notice of public hearing on Trans 276. A copy of the proposed rule is attached as well. The rule relates to allowing the operation of double bottoms and certain other vehicles on specified highways.

With this memorandum, you should have received a notice that Clearinghouse Rule 00-077 has been referred to the Assembly Transportation Committee. You will notice that the clearinghouse rule and Trans 276 deal with the same subject, yet the deadline for committee action is June 30, 2000 and the DOT's hearing is June 29, 2000. A member of my staff talked with Bill Ford, Legislative Council Attorney for the committee and he said that it is not unusual for the DOT to schedule hearings for non-controversial rules such as this one before the committee's review period has expired.

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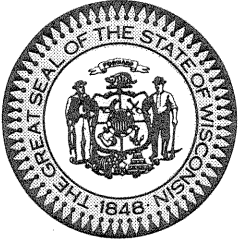
Committee Memberships:

Transportation (Chair); Education; Highway Safety; Natural Resources; Urban & Local Affairs; Rustic Roads Board; Transportation Projects Commission

Office: P.O. Box 8952 • Madison, Wisconsin 53708-8952 • (608) 266-1170 • Rep.Brandemuehl@legis.state.wi.us

Home: 13081 Pine Road • Fennimore, Wisconsin 53809 • (608) 822-3776

Toll-Free: (888) 872-0049 • Fax: (608) 282-3649



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E-Mail: ogc.exec@dot.state.wi.us

The Honorable Senator Roger Breske
Chairman, Senate Transportation Committee
Room 18 South, State Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

May 30, 2000

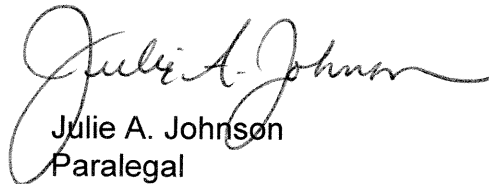
The Honorable Representative David Brandemuehl
Chairman, Assembly Committee on Highways & Transportation
Room 317 North, State Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

RE: **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING** and Text of Proposed Rule, relating to **allowing the operation of double bottoms and certain other vehicles on specified highways, Trans 276**

Dear Senator Breske and Representative Brandemuehl:

In accordance with the Department of Transportation's practice of notifying the Legislative Transportation Committees concerning rulemaking actions, I submit the enclosed documents for your information. These documents have also been filed with the Revisor of Statutes and with the Legislative Council, with copy to the Department of Administration, in accordance with the requirements of §§ 227.15 and 227.17, Stats.

Sincerely,


Julie A. Johnson
Paralegal

Enclosure

cc: Alice Morehouse
Mike Goetzman
Jim Gruendler
Ashwani Sharma

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation proposes an order to amend TRANS 276.07(11), relating to allowing the operation of double bottoms and certain other vehicles on certain specified highways.

**NOTICE OF HEARING
AND
TEXT OF PROPOSED RULE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to ss. 85.16(1) and 348.07(4), Stats., interpreting s. 348.07(4), Stats., the Department of Transportation will hold a public hearing at the following location to consider the amendment of chapter Trans 276, Wisconsin Administrative Code, relating to allowing the operation of double bottoms and certain other vehicles on certain specified highways:

Thursday, June 29, 2000
Hill Farms State Transportation Building
4802 Sheboygan Avenue, Room 419
Madison, WI
10:00 AM

(Parking is available for persons with disabilities)

The public record on this proposed rule making will be held open until close of business on the date of the hearing to permit the submission of written comments from persons unable to attend the public hearing or who wish to supplement testimony offered at the hearing. Any such written comments should be submitted to Ashwani K. Sharma, Traffic Operations Engineer, Bureau of Highway Operations, Room 501, P. O. Box 7986, Madison, Wisconsin, 53707-7986.

Analysis Prepared by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: ss. 85.16(1) and 348.07(4), Stats.

STATUTE INTERPRETED: s. 348.07(4), Stats.

General Summary of Proposed Rule. This proposed rule amends Trans 276.07(11), Wisconsin Administrative Code, to add one segment of highway to the designated highway system established under s. 348.07(4), Stats. The actual highway segment¹ that this proposed rule adds to the designated highway system is:

<u>Hwy.</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
STH 55	USH 41 in Kaukauna	STH 54 South of Seymour

The long trucks to which this proposed rule applies are those with 53-foot semitrailers, double bottoms and the vehicles which may legally operate on the federal National Network, but which exceed Wisconsin's regular limits on overall length. Generally, no person may operate any of the following vehicles on Wisconsin's highways without a permit: A single vehicle with an overall length in excess of 40 feet², a combination of vehicles with an overall length in excess of 65 feet, a semitrailer longer than 48 feet, an automobile haulaway longer than 66 feet plus allowed overhangs, or a double bottom. Certain exceptions are provided under s. 348.07(2), Stats., which implements provisions of the federal Surface Transportation Assistance Act in Wisconsin.

The effect of this proposed rule will be to extend the provisions of s. 348.07(2)(f), (fm), (gm) and (gr), and s. 348.08(1)(e), Stats., to the highway segments listed above. As a result, vehicles which may legally operate on the federal National Network in Wisconsin will also be allowed to operate on the newly-designated highways. Specifically, this means there will be no overall length limitation for a tractor-semi-trailer combination, a double bottom or an automobile haulaway on the affected highway segments. There also will be no length limitation for a truck tractor or road tractor when operated in a tractor-semi-trailer combination or as part of a double bottom or an automobile haulaway. Double bottoms will be allowed to operate on the affected highway segments provided neither trailer is longer than 28 feet, 6 inches. Semi-trailers up to 53 feet long may also be operated on these highway segments provided the kingpin to rear axle distance does not exceed 43 feet. This distance is measured from the kingpin to the center of the rear axle or, if the semi-trailer has a tandem axle, to a point midway between the first and last axles

¹ The proposed rule text often achieves these objectives by consolidating individual segments into contiguous segments with new end points. In order to determine the actual highway segment added, it is necessary to compare the combined old designations with the combined new designation.

² 45-foot buses are allowed on the National Network and Interstate system by Federal law. Section 4006(b) of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991.

of the tandem. Otherwise, semitrailers, including semitrailers which are part of an automobile haulaway, are limited to 48 feet in length.

These vehicles and combinations are also allowed to operate on undesignated highways for a distance of 5 miles or less from the designated highway in order to reach fuel, food, maintenance, repair, rest, staging, terminal or vehicle assembly or points of loading or unloading.

Fiscal Impact. The Department estimates that there will be no fiscal impact on the liabilities or revenues of any county, city, village, town, school district, technical college district or sewerage district.

Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis. The provisions of this proposed rule adding highway segments to the designated system have no direct adverse effect on small businesses, and may have a favorable effect on those small businesses which are shippers or carriers using the newly-designated routes.

Copies of Rule and Contact Person. Copies of this proposed rule are available without cost upon request to the office of the State Traffic Engineer, P. O. Box 7986, Room 501, Madison, Wisconsin, 53707-7986, telephone (608) 266-1273. For questions about this rule making, please call Ashwani Sharma, Traffic Operations Engineer at (608) 266-1273. Alternate formats of the proposed rule will be provided to individuals at their request.

TEXT OF PROPOSED RULE

Under the authority vested in the state of Wisconsin, department of transportation, by ss. 85.16(1) and 348.07(4), Stats., the department of transportation hereby proposes to amend ch. Trans 276, Wisconsin Administrative Code, interpreting s. 348.07(4), Stats., relating to allowing the operation of double bottoms and certain other vehicles on certain specified highways, as follows:

SECTION 1. Trans 276.07(11) is amended to read:

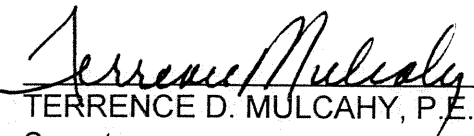
	<u>Route</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
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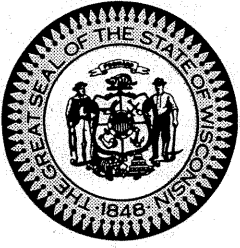
(END OF RULE TEXT)

Effective Date. This rule shall take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register as provided in s. 227.22(2), Stats.

Signed at Madison, Wisconsin, this 26 day of May, 2000.



 TERRENCE D. MULCAHY, P.E.
 Secretary
 Wisconsin Department of Transportation



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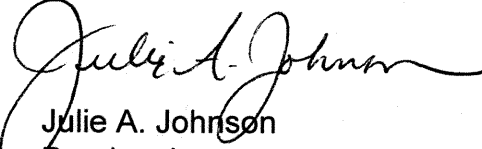
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(END OF RULE TEXT)

Effective Date. This rule shall take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register as provided in s. 227.22(2), Stats.

Signed at Madison, Wisconsin, this 26 day of
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Secretary
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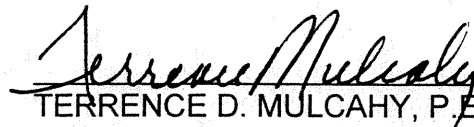
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Effective Date. This rule shall take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register as provided in s. 227.22(2), Stats.

Signed at Madison, Wisconsin, this 26 day of May, 2000.



 TERRENCE D. MULCAHY, P.E.
 Secretary
 Wisconsin Department of Transportation