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(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

**WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ...
PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS**

2009-10

(session year)

Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

**Committee on ... Transportation, Tourism,
Forestry, and Natural Resources (SC-TTFNR)**

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
(**ab** = Assembly Bill) (**ar** = Assembly Resolution) (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)
(**sb** = Senate Bill) (**sr** = Senate Resolution) (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**

Senate

Record of Committee Proceedings

Committee on Transportation, Tourism, Forestry, and Natural Resources

Assembly Bill 552

Relating to: following snowplows and providing a penalty.

By Representatives Kaufert, Berceau, Smith, Brooks, Kerkman, Mursau, Zepnick, Lothian, Townsend and Clark; cosponsored by Senators Hansen, Lehman, Taylor and Schultz.

March 01, 2010 Referred to Committee on Transportation, Tourism, Forestry, and Natural Resources.

March 10, 2010 **PUBLIC HEARING HELD**

Present: (5) Senators Holperin, Sullivan, Leibham, Kedzie and Grothman.
Absent: (2) Senators Plale and Hansen.

Appearances For

- Dean Kaufert — 55th Assembly District

Appearances Against

- None.

Appearances for Information Only

- None.

Registrations For

- Dave Hansen — 30th Senate District
- Liz Stephens — Wisconsin Counties Association
- Susan McMurray — AFSCME
- John Gabel — AFSCME

Registrations Against

- None.

Registrations for Information Only

- None.

April 1, 2010 **EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD**

Present: (7) Senators Holperin, Sullivan, Plale, Hansen, Leibham, Kedzie and Grothman.

Absent: (0) None.

Moved by Senator Sullivan, seconded by Senator Hansen that **Assembly Bill 552** be recommended for concurrence.

Ayes: (7) Senators Holperin, Sullivan, Plale, Hansen, Leibham, Kedzie and Grothman.

Noes: (0) None.

CONCURRENCE RECOMMENDED, Ayes 7, Noes 0

Elizabeth Novak
Committee Clerk



WISCONSIN TEAMSTERS JOINT COUNCIL No. 39

Affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters



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President
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December 15, 2009

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To: Committee on Transportation

Re: AB 552

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Dear Representative/Senator

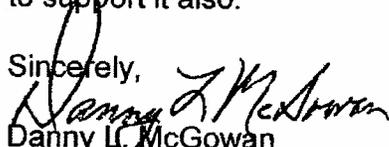
On behalf of Wisconsin Teamsters Joint Council 39, I am registering our support for the above referenced bill.

This bill would prohibit a person operating a vehicle from following an official snowplow equipped and engaged as described above, closer than 75 feet when upon a highway having a posted speed limit of 35 miles per hour or less. This bill also requires a person operating a vehicle that approaches from the rear an official snowplow, equipped and engaged as described above, that is stopped at an intersection to stop not less than 20 feet from the snowplow and remain stopped until the snowplow resumes motion.

This is a safety issue for the general public as well as the professional snowplow operators that work long and tedious hours in keeping our roadways safe to travel during the harsh winters in Wisconsin.

We respectfully request that you support this bill and urge your fellow legislators to support it also.

Sincerely,


Danny L. McGowan

Legislative Liaison

Wisconsin Teamsters Joint Council 39

DM/ms

CC: Representatives, Steinbrink, Garthwaite, Sinicki, Stone, Zigmont, Fields, Kaufert, Berceau, Smith, Brooks, Kerkman, Mursau, Zepnick, Lothian, Townsend and Clark.
Senators, Hansen, Lehman, Taylor and Schultz.





March 10, 2010

To Senate Committee on Transportation

From Tim Jacobson
Public Works Supt.
City of Menasha

Re AB 552

I would like to thank all Legislators and Senators for allowing me the privilege of speaking on behalf of AB552, at the January 21st public hearing. I can't express enough my gratitude and how pleasant this experience was for me on a personal level. I have been following the progress of AB552 by watching proceedings on the WisEye website. I am very pleased and proud of the support shown by Legislators, Senators, Democrats and Republicans alike.

Part of my duties as the Public Works Supt. is the authority to issue citations relating to Public Works ordinances. I have always believed in "education before citation". In my time I have found the best educational tool is "visual". As Representative Dean Kaufert explained, normal city lots measure 60' (wide) x 120' (deep). If you conclude the 75' following distance is not attainable, the visual aid that I envision seems simple, "if you are following a snow plow with in the span of one house (60'), then you are to close". This distance will also allow for any unforeseen hazards such as hard braking/skidding or unanticipated equipment failures.

One incident that happened during my time here was having a tandem axle truck plowing an east/west street. After hitting a manhole casting (raised slightly by frost) the truck was sent spinning to the south side of the street while the plow wound up on the north side terrace. This incident occurred at less than 15mph. We have since minimized this type of incident through improved pavement maintenance and equipment specifications. But there is an element of anticipating the unexpected in our operations. Imagine the potential injuries of an aggressive driver following too close?

By forwarding AB552 you will be providing (my estimate) the other 60% of the official plow operators the same protections as those covered at speeds exceeding 35mph. These operators have gauges and instruments inside the cab that are routinely observed. While performing their normal tasks they are also deluged by the rude and/or aggressive driver that ultimately becomes the hazard rather than the snowstorm itself.

In conclusion I thank you for your time and efforts on these matters and look forward to the successful integration of AB552. If I can be of any further service on these matters or others, please feel free to call upon me.

Cc Representative Dean Kaufert
Senator Mike Ellis