
Wisconsin Legislative Council

ACT MEMO



Prepared by: David Moore, Senior Staff Attorney

March 27, 2020

2019 Wisconsin Act 174
[2019 Senate Bill 669]

**Exemption to Federal Hours of
Service Requirements**

Federal law places limitations on the number of hours within a given time period that the operator of a commercial motor vehicle may drive and be on duty. The requirements do not apply during planting and harvesting periods to drivers transporting any of the following:

- Agricultural commodities from the source of the agricultural commodities to a location within a 150 air-mile radius from the source.
- Farm supplies for agricultural purposes from a wholesale or retail distribution point to a farm or other location where the farm supplies are intended to be used within a 150 air-mile radius from the distribution point.
- Farm supplies for agricultural purposes from a wholesale distribution point to a retail distribution point with a 150 air-mile radius from the wholesale distribution point.

Federal law permits each state to determine the planting and harvesting period for the purposes of this exception. Prior state law designated Wisconsin's planting and harvesting period as March 15 through December 15 of each year.

2019 Wisconsin Act 174 designates Wisconsin's planting and harvesting period, for the purpose of the exemption described above, as January 1 through December 31 of each year.

Effective date: March 5, 2020

DM:mca;ty