

1987 Senate Bill 99

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## 1987 Wisconsin Act 164

AN ACT to amend 347.21 (1), 347.245 (1), (2) and (4), 348.08 (1) (d) and 348.08 (2); and to create 347.21 (1m) of the statutes, relating to allowing certain trailers to be drawn by a motor truck without a permit and permitting the substitution of slow moving vehicle emblems for lighting devices on certain trains of agricultural vehicles operated during hours of darkness.

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

SECTION 1. 347.21 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

347.21 (1) No person shall operate on a highway during hours of darkness any train of vehicles authorized by s. 348.08 (1) ~~(b) or~~ (d) unless there is mounted on each side of every vehicle in such train, including farm tractors and implements of husbandry, at least one lamp emitting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the side of the vehicle on which mounted or, in lieu thereof, at least one red reflector or, notwithstanding s. 347.245, one slow moving vehicle emblem visible from all distances within 500 feet to 50 feet of the side of the vehicle when directly in front of lawful upper beams of headlamps.

SECTION 1g. 347.21 (1m) of the statutes is created to read:

347.21 (1m) No person shall operate on a highway during hours of darkness any train of vehicles authorized by s. 348.08 (1) (b) unless there is mounted on each side of every vehicle in such train, including farm tractors and implements of husbandry, at least one lamp emitting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the side of the vehicle on which mounted or, in lieu thereof, at least one red reflector visible from all distances within 500 feet to 50 feet of the side of the vehicle when directly in front of lawful upper beams of headlamps.

SECTION 1m. 347.245 (1), (2) and (4) of the statutes are amended to read:

347.245 (1) After January 1, 1970, no person may operate on a highway, day or night, any vehicle or equipment, animal-drawn vehicle, or any other machinery, including all road machinery, that usually travel at speeds less than 25 miles per hour or any vehicle operated under a special restricted operator's license issued under s. 343.135, unless there is displayed on the most practicable visible rear area of the vehicle or combination of vehicles, a slow moving vehicle (SMV) emblem as described in and displayed as provided in sub. (2). Any towed vehicle or machine is exempt from this provision if the towing vehicle is visible from the rear and is in compliance with this section. All road machinery is excluded when it is engaged in actual construction or maintenance work

either guarded by a flagman or clearly visible warning signs. The Except as provided in s. 347.21 (1), the requirement of the emblem shall be in addition to any lighting devices required or permitted by law. Mopeds and bicycles are excluded from the provisions of this section unless they are operated under a special restricted operator's license issued under s. 343.135. The SMV emblem need not be displayed on vehicles moving directly across the highway.

(2) Standards and specifications for the design and position of mounting of the SMV emblem shall be established by rule by the secretary. The Except as provided in s. 347.21 (1), the standards and specifications for SMV emblems shall correlate with and, so far as possible, conform with those approved by the American society of agricultural engineers. The secretary shall submit such standards and specifications, and any subsequent changes therein, to the assembly and senate committees having jurisdiction over transportation matters as determined by the speaker of the assembly and the president of the senate acting jointly for their approval.

(4) ~~No~~ Except as provided in s. 347.21 (1), no person shall display such emblem on any vehicle or equipment not specified in sub. (1).

SECTION 1r. 348.08 (1) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

348.08 (1) (d) Two trailers transporting empty pressurized or nonpressurized tanks used for hauling or storing liquid agricultural fertilizer or 2 implements of husbandry, including 2 empty trailers used primarily as implements of husbandry in connection with seasonal agricultural activities, may, without such permit, be drawn by a motor truck if the overall length of such combination of vehicles and load does not exceed 60 feet. For purposes of this paragraph, "empty" means less than 20% full.

SECTION 2. 348.08 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

348.08 (2) Whenever any train of agricultural vehicles is being operated under sub. (1) (b), the train shall be equipped as provided in s. 347.21 (1m) and (2). Whenever any train of agricultural vehicles is being operated under sub. (1) (d), the train shall be equipped as provided in s. 347.21 (1) and (2). The trailer hitches

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of ~~the~~ a train of agricultural vehicles shall be of a positive nature so as to prevent accidental release.

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