



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2003 Wisconsin Act 241 [2003 Senate Bill 423]	Permits for Vehicles Transporting Loads Near the Wisconsin- Michigan Border
2003 Acts: www.legis.state.wi.us/2003/data/acts/	Act Memos: www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/act_memo/act_memo.htm

Under **current law**, with limited exceptions, no person may operate upon a highway any vehicle or combination of vehicles that exceeds certain statutory limits on size, weight, or load unless that person possesses a permit issued by the Department of Transportation (DOT). The DOT is permitted to issue **an annual or consecutive month permit** for an oversize or overweight vehicle or combination of vehicles transporting loads over any state highway within 11 miles of the Wisconsin-Michigan state line and, if previously approved by local highway authorities, on local highways within that 11-mile area.

2003 Wisconsin Act 241 extends the area for which such a permit may be issued for certain vehicles or combinations of vehicles **traveling on USH 2**. Under the Act, a vehicle or combination of vehicles **transporting exclusively peeled or unpeeled forest products cut crosswise** may operate under such a permit anywhere upon USH 2 in Ashland County or Iron County if the vehicle or combination of vehicles: (1) is traveling between Wisconsin and Michigan; and (2) does not violate length or weight limitations established under current Michigan law. The permit does not authorize travel upon local roads unless previously approved by local highway authorities.

Under **current law**, if any bill introduced in either house of the Legislature directly or indirectly establishes an exception to vehicle weight limitations, DOT must prepare a report, containing specified information, relating to the bill within six weeks after the bill is introduced and before any vote is taken on the bill. The bill that created this Act (**2003 Senate Bill 423**) directed DOT not to prepare such a report on the bill.

Effective Date: The Act takes effect on April 28, 2004. The Act first applies to permits issued on the effective date.

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents.