



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2005 Wisconsin Act 466**  
[2005 Senate Bill 528]

**Motorcycle and Motor Vehicle  
Regulation**

### **Driver Education**

2005 Wisconsin Act 466 provides that driver education courses must include information on motorcycle awareness and pedestrian and bicycle awareness.

### **Motorcycle Safety Instruction**

Act 466 provides that a person who successfully completes a basic rider course is not required to hold an instruction permit in order to receive a motorcycle endorsement. Further, the Department of Transportation (DOT) may not require a person applying for an authorization to operate a motorcycle who holds an instruction permit to hold it for a minimum period of time before taking a driving skills test.

### **Right-of-Way Violations**

Generally, Wisconsin statutes provide that a person who violates the general rules of right-of-way may be required to forfeit not less than \$20 nor more than \$50 for the first offense and not less than \$50 nor more than \$100 for the second offense or subsequent conviction within a year. The forfeitures will be doubled if the violations take place in a highway work area.

Act 466 provides that a violation of right-of-way resulting in: (1) bodily harm will be penalized by a \$200 forfeiture; (2) great bodily harm will be penalized by a \$500 forfeiture; or (3) death will be penalized by a \$1,000 forfeiture. In addition, the violator must attend traffic school.

### **Facing a Red Signal**

Act 466 provides that the operator of a motorcycle, moped, motor bicycle, or bicycle facing a red signal at an intersection may, after stopping for not less than 45 seconds, proceed cautiously through the

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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 at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>.

intersection before the signal turns green if no other vehicles are present at the intersection to actuate the signal and the operator reasonably believes the signal is vehicle actuated. The operator must yield the right-of-way to any vehicular traffic, pedestrian, bicyclist, or rider of an electric personal assisted mobility device proceeding through a green signal at the intersection or lawfully within a crosswalk or using the intersection.

***Effective Date:*** The Act takes effect on October 1, 2006.

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RS:ksm