



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2011 Assembly Bill 248

**Assembly Substitute
Amendment 1**

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2011 Assembly Bill 248 allows the Department of Transportation (DOT) to issue permits for vehicles transporting hay or straw that exceed the general statutory height limitation of 13.5 feet, regardless of whether the load is divisible. Each permit must designate the route to be used and each application for a permit must be accompanied by a written statement of route approval by the officer in charge of maintenance of each highway that is involved in the route that is not part of the state trunk highway system.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 to Assembly Bill 248 allows the DOT to issue permits allowing vehicles transporting loads of hay or straw to exceed the statutory height limitation of 13.5 feet by up to 1 foot in an urban area, as defined by DOT, or by 1.5 feet elsewhere. As under the bill, the permittee must get a written statement of route approval by the officer in charge of maintenance of any local highway on the route and the permit may be issued regardless of whether the load is divisible.

The substitute amendment requires that permit applications be submitted to the DOT electronically, allows the DOT to promulgate rules regulating the configuration of the loads carried under these permits and how the loads are to be secured, and generally authorizes the DOT to issue general permits for size or weight exceedances regardless of whether the load being transported is divisible.

Legislative History

Representative Petrowski offered Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 on September 15, 2011. On September 27, 2011, the Assembly Committee on Transportation unanimously recommended adoption of Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 and passage of Assembly Bill 248, as amended.

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