2001 SENATE BILL 6

January 12, 2001 – Introduced by Senators CHVALA, BAUMGART, BURKE, ERPENBACH, MOEN, RISSER and HANSEN, cosponsored by Representatives URBAN, BOCK, BLACK, RYBA, OTT, SYKORA and ALBERS. Referred to Committee on Insurance, Tourism, and Transportation.

1   AN ACT *to amend* 347.489 (1) of the statutes; **relating to:** lamps emitting a

2   flashing red or white light on bicycles and motor bicycles.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law requires that all bicycles and motor bicycles being operated upon a highway, sidewalk, bicycle lane, or bicycle way to be equipped with a rear red reflector. A lamp emitting a red or flashing amber light may be used in addition to the reflector, but the lamp may not substitute for the reflector.

This bill allows lamps emitting a red or white flashing light to be used on bicycles and motor bicycles in addition to (but not in lieu of) the rear red reflector.

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

3   SECTION 1. 347.489 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

4   347.489 **(1)** No person may operate a bicycle or motor bicycle upon a highway,

5   sidewalk, bicycle lane, or bicycle way during hours of darkness unless the bicycle or

6   motor bicycle is equipped with or the operator is wearing a lamp emitting a white

7   light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the front of the bicycle or motor

1 bicycle. A bicycle or motor bicycle shall also be equipped with a red reflector that has

2 a diameter of at least 2 inches of surface area on the rear so mounted and maintained

3 as to be visible from all distances from 50 to 500 feet to the rear when directly in front

4 of lawful upper beams of headlamps on a motor vehicle. A lamp emitting a red ~~or~~

5 ~~flashing amber~~ light, or a flashing red, white, or amber light, visible from a distance

6 of 500 feet to the rear may be used in addition to but not in lieu of the red reflector.

7 **(END)**