



## 2013 SENATE BILL 135

April 10, 2013 – Introduced by Senators PETROWSKI, TIFFANY, JAUCH and LASSA, cosponsored by Representatives SWEARINGEN, MURSAU, BALLWEG, BERNIER, BEWLEY, BIES, JAGLER, T. LARSON, MURTHA, NYGREN, A. OTT, RIPP, SPIROS and WRIGHT. Referred to Committee on Transportation, Public Safety, and Veterans and Military Affairs.

1     **AN ACT to amend** 348.27 (9) (a) 1. b. of the statutes; **relating to:** annual or  
2             consecutive month permits for vehicles or combinations of vehicles  
3             transporting loads near the Wisconsin-Michigan border.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Under current law, with limited exceptions, no person may operate on a highway any vehicle or combination of vehicles (vehicle) that exceeds certain statutory limits on size, weight, or load unless that person possesses a permit issued by the Department of Transportation (DOT). DOT may issue an annual or consecutive month permit (Michigan border permit) for an oversize or overweight vehicle to: 1) transport loads within 11 miles of the Wisconsin-Michigan state line; 2) transport certain forest products on USH 2 in Iron County or Ashland County or in Bayfield County from the Ashland County line through Hart Lake Road, if the vehicle is traveling between this state and Michigan and does not violate Michigan law, as of April 28, 2004; or 3) transport certain forest products on USH 2 from STH 13 in the city of Ashland through Hart Lake Road in Bayfield County, regardless of whether the vehicle is traveling between this state and Michigan.

This bill allows a vehicle operating under a Michigan border permit as provided in item 2), above, to also operate in Florence County. Also under the bill, the vehicle's operation must be in compliance with current provisions of Michigan law, rather than Michigan law as of April 28, 2004.

Under current law, if any bill introduced in either house of the legislature directly or indirectly establishes an exception to vehicle weight limitations, DOT

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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. This bill directs DOT not to prepare such a report on this bill because current law already allows the same loads to be transported on USH 2 in other counties.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

1           **SECTION 1.** 348.27 (9) (a) 1. b. of the statutes is amended to read:

2           348.27 (9) (a) 1. b. The transportation of exclusively peeled or unpeeled forest  
3 products cut crosswise, wood chips, or forestry biomass anywhere upon USH 2 in Iron  
4 County, Florence County, or Ashland County or upon USH 2 in Bayfield County from  
5 the Ashland County line through Hart Lake Road if the vehicle or combination of  
6 vehicles is traveling between this state and Michigan and does not violate length or  
7 weight limitations established, ~~as of April 28, 2004,~~ under Michigan law.

8           **SECTION 2. Nonstatutory provisions.**

9           (1)     EXCEPTION TO REVIEW BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.  
10       Notwithstanding section 13.096 (2) of the statutes, the department of transportation  
11 shall not prepare a report on this bill under section 13.096 (2) and (3) of the statutes  
12 because section 348.27 (9) (a) 1. b., 2011 stats., already allows the same loads to be  
13 transported on USH 2 in all or parts of Iron County, Ashland County, and Bayfield  
14 County.

15           **SECTION 3. Initial applicability.**

16           (1) This act first applies to permits issued on the effective date of this  
17 subsection.

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(END)