



State of Wisconsin  
2015 - 2016 LEGISLATURE

LRB-2215/1  
ARG&SWB:kjf

## 2015 SENATE BILL 480

December 29, 2015 – Introduced by Senators BEWLEY and LASSA, cosponsored by Representatives MEYERS, BARNES, A. OTT, MILROY, POPE, SUBECK, SPREITZER, OHNSTAD, CONSIDINE, HEBL, BERCEAU and BROSTOFF. Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services.

1     **AN ACT to amend** 255.15 (3) (b) (intro.); and **to create** 20.435 (1) (gc), 346.94 (24),  
2           346.947, 346.95 (13), 814.75 (28) and 814.79 (11) of the statutes; **relating to:**  
3           smoking in motor vehicles while a child is present, making an appropriation,  
4           and providing a penalty.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Current law prohibits, with exceptions, a person from smoking in specified enclosed or outdoor locations, including in a “public conveyance,” which is a mass transit vehicle, school bus, or other device by which persons are transported for hire except in interstate commerce. A person who violates this prohibition is subject to a forfeiture of not less than \$100 nor more than \$250 for each violation.

Also under current law, the Department of Health Services administers a tobacco use control program to award grants for specified purposes, including to reduce tobacco use and promote tobacco use cessation and prevention.

This bill prohibits a person from smoking in a motor vehicle while a child under the age of eight years, weighing not more than 80 pounds, and of a height not more than 57 inches is present in the motor vehicle, regardless of whether the motor vehicle is on a highway. However, the bill does not apply to smoking in a public conveyance. A person who violates this prohibition must forfeit \$25 for the first offense and \$50 for each subsequent offense and must also pay a surcharge in the same amount. The surcharge proceeds provide additional funding for the tobacco use control program. A law enforcement officer may not stop or inspect a vehicle solely

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to determine compliance with this smoking prohibition but may issue a citation for a violation observed in the course of a stop or inspection made for other purposes.

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.** 20.435 (1) (gc) of the statutes is created to read:

2           20.435 (1) (gc) *Tobacco use control, surcharge proceeds.* All moneys received  
3 from vehicle smoking surcharges under s. 346.947 for grants and programs under s.  
4 255.15 (3).

5           **SECTION 2.** 255.15 (3) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

6           255.15 (3) (b) (intro.) From the appropriation ~~account~~ accounts under s. 20.435  
7 (1) (fm) and (gc), the department may award grants for any of the following:

8           **SECTION 3.** 346.94 (24) of the statutes is created to read:

9           346.94 (24) SMOKING IN MOTOR VEHICLES WHILE A CHILD IS PRESENT. (a) In this  
10 subsection:

11           1. "Child" means a person who is under the age of 8 years, weighs not more than  
12 80 pounds, and is not more than 57 inches in height.

13           2. "Public conveyance" has the meaning given in s. 101.123 (1) (e).

14           3. "Smoke" means to burn or hold, or inhale or exhale smoke from, any item  
15 described in s. 101.123 (1) (h) 1. to 4. containing tobacco.

16           (b) No person may smoke in a motor vehicle while any child is present in the  
17 motor vehicle, regardless of whether the motor vehicle is on a highway.

18           (c) This subsection does not apply if the motor vehicle is a public conveyance.

19           (d) Notwithstanding s. 349.02, a law enforcement officer may not stop or  
20 inspect a vehicle solely to determine compliance with this subsection or a local

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1 ordinance in conformity with this subsection. This paragraph does not limit the  
2 authority of a law enforcement officer to issue a citation for a violation of this  
3 subsection or a local ordinance in conformity with this subsection observed in the  
4 course of a stop or inspection made for other purposes, except that a law enforcement  
5 officer may not take a person into physical custody solely for a violation of this  
6 subsection or a local ordinance in conformity with this subsection.

7 **SECTION 4.** 346.947 of the statutes is created to read:

8 **346.947 Smoking in vehicle surcharge.** (1) Whenever a court imposes a  
9 forfeiture under s. 346.95 (13) for a violation of s. 346.94 (24), the court shall also  
10 impose a vehicle smoking surcharge under ch. 814 in an amount equal to the amount  
11 of the forfeiture imposed.

12 (2) If a forfeiture is suspended in whole or in part, the surcharge under sub.  
13 (1) shall be reduced in proportion to the suspension.

14 (3) If any deposit is made for an offense to which this section applies, the person  
15 making the deposit shall also deposit a sufficient amount to include the surcharge  
16 under this section. If the deposit is forfeited, the amount of the surcharge shall be  
17 transmitted to the secretary of administration under sub. (4). If the deposit is  
18 returned, the amount of the surcharge shall also be returned.

19 (4) The clerk of the circuit court shall collect and transmit to the county  
20 treasurer the vehicle smoking surcharge as required under s. 59.40 (2) (m). The  
21 county treasurer shall then pay the secretary of administration as provided in s.  
22 59.25 (3) (f) 2. The secretary of administration shall deposit all amounts received  
23 under this subsection in the general fund to be appropriated under s. 20.435 (1) (gc).

24 **SECTION 5.** 346.95 (13) of the statutes is created to read:

