

CHAPTER 386

AN ACT to repeal and recreate 346.48 of the statutes, relating to vehicles stopping for school busses loading or unloading children.

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

346.48 of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

346.48 VEHICLES TO STOP FOR SCHOOL BUSES LOADING OR UNLOADING CHILDREN. (1) The operator of a vehicle which approaches from the front or rear any school bus which has stopped on a street or highway when the bus is equipped according to s. 347.25 (2) and when it is displaying flashing red warning lights, shall stop the vehicle not less than 20 feet from the bus and shall remain stopped until the bus resumes motion or the operator extinguishes the flashing red warning lights. This subsection does not apply to operators of vehicles proceeding in the opposite direction on a divided highway.

(2) (a) Except as provided in par. (b) the operator of a school bus equipped with flashing red warning lights as specified in s. 347.25 (2) shall actuate such lights at least 100 feet before stopping to load or unload pupils or other authorized passengers, and shall not extinguish such lights until loading or unloading is completed and persons who must cross the highway are safely across. Where the curb and sidewalk are laid on one side of the road only, the operator shall use the flashing red warning lights when loading or unloading passengers from either side.

(b) School bus operators shall not use the flashing red warning lights in:

1. Special school bus loading areas where the bus is entirely off the traveled portion of the highway;
2. Residence or business districts when pupils or other authorized passengers are to be loaded or unloaded where a sidewalk and curb are laid on both sides of the road.

(c) When a school bus is being used on a highway for purposes other than the actual transportation of pupils or other authorized passengers to or from a school or a school-approved activity, the flashing red warning lights shall not be used, and all markings on the front and rear of the bus indicating it is a school bus shall be removed or completely concealed.

Approved November 18, 1965.