1999 DRAFTING REQUEST

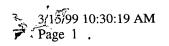
Bill

Wanted: As time permits For: John Gard (608) 266-2343 This file may be shown to any legislator: NO May Contact: Subject: Transportation - traffic laws				Identical to LRB: By/Representing:								
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/?	nilsepe 03/15/99	jgeller 03/15/99										
/1			martykr 03/16/99		lrb_docadmin 03/16/99	lrb_docadmin 03/17/99						
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TO:

Assembly Chairman, Joint Committee on Finance

Memorandum

Matt, Rep. Gard's Office

LRB; Bill Drafting **FROM**

Bill draft; distance between moving vehicles **REQUEST:**

Please draft this request as follows:

Section 346.14 (1): "The operator of a motor vehicle "with a gross weight of less than 10,000 pounds" shall not follow another vehicle more closely than "200 feet", having due regard for the speed of such vehicle and the traffic upon and the condition of the highway".

Thank you for your help. Please feel free to contact me at 6-2343 if you have any questions.

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State of Misconsin 1999 - 2000 LEGISLATURE

LRB-2502(2)

PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

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AN ACT ...; relating to: the distance between vehicles.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law prohibits the operator of any motor vehicle from following another motor vehicle more closely than is reasonable and prudent, considering the speed of the vehicles and the conditions of traffic and road surface. In addition, the operator of a motor truck having a gross weight of 10,000 pounds or more must remain at least 500 feet behind the nearest preceding vehicle.

This bill eliminates the "reasonable and prudent" minimum following distance and substitutes a fixed minimum following distance between certain vehicles. Under the bill, no operator of a motor vehicle having a gross weight of less than 10,000 pounds (generally motorcycles, automobiles and light—duty trucks) may follow a vehicle closer than 200 feet. The bill retains the current prohibition against heavier motor trucks following closer than 500 feet.

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

SECTION 1. 346.14 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

346.14 (1) The operator of a motor vehicle shall having a gross weight of less

than 10,000 pounds may not follow another vehicle more closely than is reasonable

SECTION 1

and prudent 200 feet, having due regard for the speed of such vehicle and the traffic 1 2 upon and the condition of the highway.

History: 1987 a. 27; 1989 a. 105. SECTION 2. Initial applicability.

(1) This act first applies to motor vehicle operated on the effective date of this subsection.

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(END)

DRAFTER'S NOTE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

PEJ

(//dh)

LRB-2502/2dr

Rep. Gard:

This bill will allow only 27 automobiles per lane mile. This might aggravate traffic problems, especially during rush hour and in populated areas.

This bill eliminates the statutory "reasonable and prudent" following distance requirement, which under some conditions might be greater than 200 feet. Common law will continue to impose a duty of reasonable care under the circumstances.

Your proposed language requested retaining the "having due regard" language. I am not sure of the legal effect of retaining this language, since the statute now specifies a single fixed distance of 200 feet. If this "having regard language is intended to explain the purpose of the 200 foot distance and is not intended to have any substantive legal effect, this language should be deleted. Do you want to set a fixed distance of 200 feet or, having due regard for speed, etc., a greater distance that is reasonable and prudent?

Quotation

Paul E. Nilsen Legislative Attorney Phone: (608) 261–6926

DRAFTER'S NOTE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

LRB-2502/1dn PEN:jlg:km

March 16, 1999

Rep. Gard:

This bill will allow only 27 automobiles per lane mile. This might aggravate traffic problems, especially during rush hour and in populated areas.

This bill eliminates the statutory "reasonable and prudent" following distance requirement, which under some conditions might be greater than 200 feet. Common law will continue to impose a duty of reasonable care under the circumstances.

Your proposed language requested retaining the "having due regard" language. I am not sure of the legal effect of retaining this language, since the statute now specifies a single fixed distance of 200 feet. If this "having regard" language is intended to explain the purpose of the 200–foot distance and is not intended to have any substantive legal effect, this language should be deleted. Do you want to set a fixed distance of 200 feet or, having due regard for speed, etc., a greater distance that is reasonable and prudent?

Paul E. Nilsen Legislative Attorney Phone: (608) 261–6926

SUBMITTAL

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU **Legal Section** Telephone: 266-3561 5th Floor, 100 N. Hamilton Street

The attached draft is submitted for your inspection. Please check each part carefully, proofread each word, and sign on the appropriate line(s) below.

Date: 3/16/99 To: Representative Gard Relating to LRB drafting number: LRB-2502 **Topic** Minimum distance between vehicles Subject(s) Transportation - traffic laws 1. JACKET the draft for introduction in the Senate ____ or the Assembly (check only one). Only the requester under whose name the drafting request is entered in the LRB's drafting records may authorize the draft to be submitted. Please allow one day for the preparation of the required copies. 2. **REDRAFT.** See the changes indicated or attached A revised draft will be submitted for your approval with changes incorporated. 3. Obtain FISCAL ESTIMATE NOW, prior to introduction If the analysis indicates that a fiscal estimate is required because the proposal makes an appropriation or increases or decreases existing appropriations or state or general local government fiscal liability or revenues, you have the option to request the fiscal estimate prior to introduction. If you choose to introduce the proposal without the fiscal estimate, the fiscal estimate will be requested automatically upon introduction. It takes about 10 days to obtain a fiscal estimate. Requesting the fiscal estimate prior to introduction retains your flexibility for possible redrafting of the proposal.

If you have any questions regarding the above procedures, please call 266-3561. If you have any questions relating to the attached draft, please feel free to call me.

> Paul E. Nilsen, Legislative Attorney Telephone: (608) 261-6926