

1999 ASSEMBLY BILL 929

March 28, 2000 - Introduced by Representatives SUDER, AINSWORTH, GUNDERSON, MUSSER, RYBA, STONE and VRAKAS, cosponsored by Senators FITZGERALD and ROESSLER. Referred to Committee on Highway Safety.

1 **AN ACT to renumber and amend** 346.01 (2); **to amend** 346.17 (5), 346.22 (1) (b),
2 346.43 (1) (b) 3., 346.49 (1) (c), 346.60 (3m) (a), 346.65 (5m) and 349.06 (3); and
3 **to create** 346.01 (2) (em) of the statutes; **relating to:** penalties for certain
4 traffic offenses committed where persons working in emergency response zones
5 are at risk from traffic and providing a penalty.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the amount of any applicable minimum and maximum fine or forfeiture is doubled for specified traffic violations committed where persons working in a highway maintenance or construction area or utility work area are at risk from traffic. These traffic violations include failing to follow certain traffic signs and signals, failing to follow certain orders of traffic officers, exceeding certain maximum speed limits and driving recklessly.

This bill doubles the amount of any applicable minimum and maximum fine or forfeiture for committing one of those specified traffic violations where persons working on or near an authorized emergency vehicle that is stopped in a highway right-of-way are at risk from traffic.

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

ASSEMBLY BILL 929**SECTION 1**

1 **SECTION 1.** 346.01 (2) of the statutes is renumbered 346.01 (2) (intro.) and
2 amended to read:

3 346.01 (2) (intro.) In this chapter, ~~notwithstanding:~~

4 (o) Notwithstanding s. 340.01 (42), “owner” means, with respect to a vehicle
5 that is registered, or is required to be registered, by a lessee of the vehicle under ch.
6 341, the lessee of the vehicle for purposes of vehicle owner liability under ss. 346.175,
7 346.195, 346.205, 346.457, 346.465, 346.485, 346.505 (3) and 346.945.

8 **SECTION 2.** 346.01 (2) (em) of the statutes is created to read:

9 346.01 (2) (em) “Emergency response zone” means the entire area of roadway
10 beginning 500 feet from an authorized emergency vehicle that is stopped on a
11 highway and ending where traffic may return to its normal flow without impeding
12 work on or around the authorized emergency vehicle.

13 **SECTION 3.** 346.17 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 346.17 (5) If an operator of a vehicle violates s. 346.04 (1) or (2) where persons
15 engaged in work in a highway maintenance or construction area, in an emergency
16 response zone or in a utility work area are at risk from traffic, any applicable
17 minimum and maximum forfeiture specified in sub. (1) for the violation shall be
18 doubled.

19 **SECTION 4.** 346.22 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 346.22 (1) (b) If an operator of a vehicle violates s. 346.18 (6) where persons
21 engaged in work in a highway maintenance or construction area, in an emergency
22 response zone or in a utility work area are at risk from traffic, any applicable
23 minimum and maximum forfeiture specified in par. (a) for the violation shall be
24 doubled.

25 **SECTION 5.** 346.43 (1) (b) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

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1 346.43 (1) (b) 3. If an operator of a vehicle violates s. 346.37 or 346.39 where
2 persons engaged in work in a highway maintenance or construction area, in an
3 emergency response zone or in a utility work area are at risk from traffic, any
4 applicable minimum and maximum forfeiture specified in subd. 1. for the violation
5 shall be doubled.

6 **SECTION 6.** 346.49 (1) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 346.49 (1) (c) If an operator of a vehicle violates s. 346.46 (1) where persons
8 engaged in work in a highway maintenance or construction area, in an emergency
9 response zone or in a utility work area are at risk from traffic, any applicable
10 minimum and maximum forfeiture specified in par. (a) for the violation shall be
11 doubled.

12 **SECTION 7.** 346.60 (3m) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 346.60 (3m) (a) If an operator of a vehicle violates s. 346.57 (2), (3), (4) (d) to
14 (h) or (5) where persons engaged in work in a highway maintenance or construction
15 area, in an emergency response zone or in a utility work area are at risk from traffic,
16 any applicable minimum and maximum forfeiture specified in sub. (2) or (3) for the
17 violation shall be doubled.

18 **SECTION 8.** 346.65 (5m) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 346.65 (5m) If an operator of a vehicle violates s. 346.62 (2) to (4) where persons
20 engaged in work in a highway maintenance or construction area, in an emergency
21 response zone or in a utility work area are at risk from traffic, any applicable
22 minimum and maximum forfeiture or fine specified in sub. (1), (3), (4m) or (5) for the
23 violation shall be doubled.

24 **SECTION 9.** 349.06 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

