

## 2001 ASSEMBLY BILL 292

April 3, 2001 – Introduced by Representatives WADE, SCHNEIDER, TOWNSEND, KRAWCZYK, POWERS, OWENS, SYKORA and FREESE, cosponsored by Senator WELCH. Referred to Committee on Highway Safety.

1     **AN ACT to amend** 347.23 (4) and 347.245 (5); and **to create** 347.25 (1t) of the  
2             statutes; **relating to:** allowing certain snowplows to be equipped with a  
3             flashing, oscillating, or rotating green lamp.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Under current law, any vehicle of the department of transportation, or of a county or municipal highway department, that when used upon a highway creates a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care by other motorists in approaching, overtaking, or passing may be equipped with a flashing red or amber dome-type lamp, or with two flashing red or amber lamps, one showing to the front and one showing to the rear.

This bill allows, but does not require, certain publicly owned or operated snowplows to be equipped with a green flashing, rotating, or oscillating lamp if the snowplow is not equipped with a flashing red or amber dome-type lamp, or with two flashing red or amber lamps.

Current law also prohibits any person from operating upon the left-hand side of a highway during hours of darkness any motor vehicle used in highway construction or maintenance, including snow and ice control, unless the vehicle or machinery is equipped with an auxiliary lamp projecting a flashing or revolving amber light. This bill allows a snowplow that is equipped with a green lamp to be

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operated upon the left-hand side of a highway when engaged during hours of darkness in snow and ice control.

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

1           **SECTION 1.** 347.23 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           347.23 (4) No person shall may operate upon the left-hand side of a highway  
3 during hours of darkness any road machinery or motor vehicle used in highway  
4 construction or maintenance, including snow and ice control, unless such vehicle or  
5 machinery is equipped with an auxiliary lamp or lamps projecting a flashing amber  
6 light visible from all directions for a 360-degree lens (beehive type lamp) or revolving  
7 type lamp and visible front and rear for reflectorized stationary directional type  
8 lamps. For flashing type lamps the number of flashes per minute shall be between  
9 60 and 90. For revolving type lamps the revolutions per minute shall be between 45  
10 and 90. The lenses of such auxiliary lamps shall not be less than 6 inches in diameter  
11 for the reflectorized stationary directional type lamp; 3-3/4 inches minimum  
12 diameter and 5-inch minimum height for the 360-degree lens (beehive type lamp);  
13 and 3-3/4 inches minimum width and 4-5/8 inches minimum height for the revolving  
14 type lamp. The lamps shall be equipped with bulbs of 50 candlepower minimum.  
15 The lamps shall be mounted approximately midway between the transverse  
16 extremities of the vehicle or machinery and at the highest practicable point. This  
17 subsection does not apply to any snowplow equipped with a flashing, oscillating, or  
18 rotating green lamp under s. 347.25 (1t).

19           **SECTION 2.** 347.245 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

20           347.245 (5) This section does not apply to any vehicle or combination of vehicles  
21 to the left rear of which is attached a yellow or amber flashing light at least 4 inches

