

DRAFTER'S NOTE
FROM THE
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

LRB-2862/1dn

ARG:kmg:pg

April 19, 2001

1. The attached draft incorporates the general penalty for equipment violations under ch. 347. Is this satisfactory?
2. The attached draft requires all school buses to be equipped with crossing gates. This will require retrofitting all existing school bus fleets with crossing gates, which may entail significant expense to those operating school bus fleets. Do you want to limit the requirement that school buses be equipped with crossing gates to those school buses that are either: a) purchased (or purchased as a new vehicle) after the effective date of the statute; or b) manufactured after a specified date?
3. The attached draft requires school buses to be equipped with crossing gates, but delegates to the department of transportation (DOT) the responsibility for prescribing rules setting forth the details of specifications and installation of the crossing gates. The attached draft also delegates to DOT the responsibility for prescribing rules relating to operation of the crossing gates, including when the crossing gates must be used by school bus operators. DOT has prescribed similar rules for stop signal arms for school buses. See s. Trans 300.16 (9) and 300.64, Wis. Adm. Code. Is this grant of rule-making authority satisfactory?
4. The attached draft includes a delayed effective date of approximately six months to allow DOT time to promulgate the rules required by the bill. If you want the bill to require retrofitting of existing school bus fleets (as discussed in item 2., above), a longer delayed effective date may be advisable.

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