



## 2003 ASSEMBLY BILL 662

November 13, 2003 – Introduced by Representatives KAUFERT, HINES and LOTHIAN, cosponsored by Senator ELLIS. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1     **AN ACT to create** 347.482 and 347.50 (4m) of the statutes; **relating to:** requiring  
2             the use of wheelchair securement devices in motor vehicles being used in urban  
3             mass transit systems, granting rule-making authority, and providing a  
4             penalty.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

This bill prohibits an operator of a motor vehicle being used in an urban mass transit system from transporting a person in a wheelchair, or loading or unloading such person onto the vehicle in a wheelchair lift, unless the wheelchair is secured and its wheels locked to the vehicle body or wheelchair lift by use of a wheelchair securement device of sufficient strength to prevent the wheelchair from moving or overturning. Any person who violates this prohibition may be required to forfeit not less than \$50 nor more than \$200.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

5             **SECTION 1.** 347.482 of the statutes is created to read:  
6             **347.482 Wheelchair securement devices.** (1) In this section:

**ASSEMBLY BILL 662****SECTION 1**

1 (a) “Wheelchair” means any specially constructed wheeled device that is  
2 intended to be used for the movement of a physically disabled person.

3 (b) “Wheelchair lift” means a lift that travels in a vertical or inclined direction  
4 and that is designed to be used for the loading or unloading of a person in a  
5 wheelchair.

6 (c) “Wheelchair securement device” means a strap, webbing, or other device  
7 that is designed to be used to secure a wheelchair, and to lock its wheels, to a vehicle  
8 body or wheelchair lift, including all necessary bases and other fasteners.

9 **(2)** No person may operate a motor vehicle operated in an urban mass transit  
10 system, as defined in s. 85.20 (1) (e) and (L), that is transporting a person in a  
11 wheelchair, or that is loading or unloading such person in a wheelchair lift, unless  
12 the wheelchair is secured, and its wheels locked, to the vehicle body or wheelchair  
13 lift with a wheelchair securement device with sufficient strength to do all of the  
14 following:

15 (a) Retain the wheelchair in the event the vehicle overturns.

16 (b) Prevent the wheelchair from moving.

17 (c) Prevent the wheels of the wheelchair from leaving the vehicle body or  
18 wheelchair lift in the event of a sudden stop or start.

19 **(3)** The department shall promulgate rules regarding standards and  
20 specifications for the installation, use, and operation of wheelchair securement  
21 devices required under this section.

22 **SECTION 2.** 347.50 (4m) of the statutes is created to read:

23 **347.50 (4m)** Any person violating s. 347.482 may be required to forfeit not less  
24 than \$50 nor more than \$200.

25 **SECTION 3. Effective date.**

