

2005 ASSEMBLY BILL 556

July 7, 2005 – Introduced by Representatives HAHN, NERISON, FREESE, TOWNS, BALLWEG, OWENS, OTT, KESTELL, GRONEMUS, MUSSER, PRIDEMORE, ALBERS, MURSAU, LOEFFELHOLZ, PETROWSKI and VRUWINK, cosponsored by Senators GROTHMAN, REYNOLDS, A. LASEE and OLSEN. Referred to Committee on Highway Safety.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 348.07 (2) (gr) and 348.07 (2) (im) of the statutes; **relating to:**
 2 trailers or semitrailers used to transport livestock.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, with limited exceptions, no one may operate a single vehicle that exceeds 40 feet in length without obtaining a permit from the Department of Transportation. One exception allows a person to operate, without a permit, a two-vehicle combination transporting livestock if, the trailer is not longer than 53 feet, the trailer axles are either separated by at least 8 feet or are three axles in tandem, and the towing vehicle is not truck or tractor that weighs 10,000 pounds or less.

This bill eliminates the requirement that the trailer axles be separated by at least 8 feet or be three axles in tandem, and instead replaces it with the requirement that the trailer be equipped with at least two axles.

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

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

3 **SECTION 1.** 348.07 (2) (gr) of the statutes is amended to read:
 4 348.07 (2) (gr) 53 feet for a semitrailer whose length from kingpin to axle does
 5 not exceed 43 feet and which is operated as part of a 2-vehicle combination on a

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1 highway designated under sub. (4). The length limits in this paragraph do not apply
2 to a trailer or a semitrailer that is authorized to operate under par. (im).

3 **SECTION 2.** 348.07 (2) (im) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 348.07 **(2)** (im) Seventy-five total feet for a 2-vehicle combination transporting
5 livestock, if the trailer or semitrailer, measured as required by sub. (3) (b), is not
6 longer than 53 feet, ~~and the trailer axles are either separated by at least 8 feet or are~~
7 ~~3 axles in tandem, if~~ or semitrailer is equipped with at least 2 axles, and the towing
8 vehicle is not a motor truck, truck tractor, road tractor, or combination vehicle with
9 a gross vehicle weight rating or actual gross weight of 10,000 pounds or less.

10 (END)