



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2007 Wisconsin Act 68
[2007 Senate Bill 509]

Driver Education Instruction on Passing Certain Stopped Vehicles and Equipment

Current law provides that a driver education course offered by a technical college district or by a school district may not be approved by the state Technical College System Board or by the Department of Public Instruction unless the course:

1. Acquaints students with the hazards posed by machinery and animals on highways and provides instruction in safely dealing with such hazards;
2. Provides at least 30 minutes of instruction relating to organ and tissue donation; and
3. Provides information on motorcycle, pedestrian, and bicycle awareness.

2007 Wisconsin Act 68 adds a fourth item required for course approval: the course must include instruction relating to passing stopped emergency vehicles, tow trucks, and highway machinery equipment.

Current law provides that a driver school may not be licensed by the Department of Transportation (DOT) unless the school's curriculum:

1. Acquaints students with the hazards posed by machinery and animals on highways and provides instruction in safely dealing with such hazards;
2. Provides at least 30 minutes of instruction relating to organ and tissue donation; and
3. Provides information on motorcycle, pedestrian, and bicycle awareness.

Act 68 adds a fourth required item for driver school curriculums: instruction relating to passing stopped emergency vehicles, tow trucks, and highway machinery equipment.

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>.

Under *current law*, DOT must include questions regarding highway signs, traffic laws, fuel-efficient operation of motor vehicles, anatomical gifts, and the effects of consuming alcohol while operating a motor vehicle in the “knowledge examination” for applicants for motor vehicle operator’s licenses.

Act 68 requires DOT to include the rules of passing stopped emergency vehicles, tow trucks, and highway machinery equipment in the knowledge examinations required of certain operator’s license applicants.

Effective Date: Act 68 takes effect on September 1, 2008.

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April 2, 2008

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