AN ACT to renumber and amend 346.915 (2); and to create 346.915 (2) (1. and 2. and 346.915 (3) of the statutes; relating to: following snowplows and providing a penalty.

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

SECTION 1. 346.915 (2) of the statutes is renumbered 346.915 (2) (a) and amended to read:

346.915 (a) The operator of any vehicle that is not a snowplow may not follow a snowplow closer than 200 feet upon any highway having a posted speed limit of more than 35 miles per hour the following distances, if the snowplow is engaged in highway winter maintenance snow and ice removal, as described in sub. (1), and is using lamps described in s. 347.26 (7). This subsection:

(b) Paragraph (a) does not apply when overtaking and passing a snowplow, but the fact that the operator of any vehicle upon a highway having a posted speed limit of more than 35 miles per hour follows the snowplow more closely than 200 feet permitted by par. (a) for one mile or more or follows more closely than 200 feet permitted by par. (a) when the snowplow is moving at the maximum speed limit is prima facie evidence that the operator of such following vehicle is violating this subsection. This subsection par. (a).

(c) Paragraph (a) does not apply to a snowplow that is stopped or standing in the highway.

SECTION 2. 346.915 (2) (a) 1. and 2. of the statutes are created to read:

346.915 (a) 1. Two hundred feet upon any highway having a posted speed limit of more than 35 miles per hour.

2. Seventy-five feet upon any highway having a posted speed limit of 35 miles per hour or less.

SECTION 3. 346.915 (3) of the statutes is created to read:

346.915 (3) The operator of any vehicle that is not a snowplow that approaches from the rear any snowplow that is engaged in highway winter maintenance snow and ice removal, as described in sub. (1), and is using lamps described in s. 347.26 (7) that is stopped at an intersection shall stop not less than 20 feet from the snowplow and remain stopped until the snowplow resumes motion.