October 11, 2011 – Introduced by Committee on Assembly Organization, by request of Governor Scott Walker, Representative Petrowski, and Senator Lazich. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

AN ACT to amend 348.17 (5) of the statutes; relating to: seasonal weight limitations for certain vehicles transporting agricultural crops.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, with limited exceptions, no person may operate upon a highway any vehicle or combination of vehicles that exceeds certain statutory weight limits unless the person obtains a permit issued by the Department of Transportation or a local authority. Under one exception, certain vehicles or vehicle combinations transporting agricultural crops may, without a permit, exceed weight limits by not more than 15 percent from September 1 to November 30 of each year. This bill extends the annual end date for this exception from November 30 to December 31.

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:

SECTION 1. 348.17 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

348.17 (5) From September 1 to November 30 December 31 of each year, no permit shall be required for the transportation of corn, soybeans, potatoes,
vegetables, or cranberries from the field to storage on the grower’s owned or leased land, from the field to initial storage at a location not owned or leased by the grower, or from the field to initial processing in a vehicle or combination of vehicles having a registered gross weight of 50,000 pounds or more or described in s. 340.01 (24) (b) that exceeds the weight limitations under s. 348.15 by not more than 15 percent. This subsection does not apply to the national system of interstate and defense highways, except for that portion of I 39 between USH 51 and I 90/94. (END)