



2013 ASSEMBLY BILL 284

1 **AN ACT** *to renumber and amend* 348.08 (1) (a); *to amend* 348.07 (4); and *to*
2 *create* 348.01 (2) (au), (ay) and (bv) and 348.08 (1) (a) 1. and 2. of the statutes;
3 **relating to:** the length limit for certain vehicle combinations operated on the
4 highway without a permit.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

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

5 **SECTION 1.** 348.01 (2) (au), (ay) and (bv) of the statutes are created to read:
6 348.01 (2) (au) “Drive-away method in saddlemount combination” means a
7 vehicle combination designed and specifically used to tow up to 3 trucks or truck
8 tractors, each connected by a saddle to the frame or 5th-wheel of the forward vehicle
9 of the truck or truck tractor in front of it, and including not more than one fullmount.
10 (ay) “Fullmount” means a smaller vehicle mounted completely on the frame of
11 either the first or last vehicle in a saddlemount combination.

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1 (bv) “Saddle” means a mechanism that connects the front axle of a towed
2 vehicle to the frame or 5th-wheel of the vehicle in front and functions like a
3 5th-wheel kingpin connection.

4 **SECTION 2.** 348.07 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 348.07 (4) The secretary shall, by rule, designate the highways to which sub.
6 (2) (f), (fm), and (gm) and s. 348.08 (1) (a) 2. and (e) apply. The designation of
7 highways under this subsection may not be inconsistent with the designation of
8 highways made by the U.S. secretary of transportation under P.L. 97-424, section
9 411. The secretary may also designate additional highways by rule. In adopting a
10 rule designating other highways, which may include 2-lane highways, the secretary
11 shall specify the factors which resulted in the determination to designate the
12 highways. These factors shall include, but are not limited to, safety, economics,
13 energy savings, industry productivity and competition. Vehicles to which sub. (2) (f),
14 (fm), and (gm) and s. 348.08 (1) (a) 2. and (e) apply may also operate on highways not
15 designated under this subsection for a distance of 15 miles or less in order to obtain
16 access to a highway designated under this subsection or to reach fuel, food,
17 maintenance, repair, rest, staging, terminal or vehicle assembly facilities or points
18 of loading or unloading. The secretary may, by rule, designate an access route of more
19 than 15 miles from a highway designated under this subsection when the longer
20 route provides safer and better access to a location which is within the 15-mile limit.
21 Household goods carriers may operate between highways designated under this
22 subsection and points of loading and unloading.

23 **SECTION 3.** 348.08 (1) (a) of the statutes is renumbered 348.08 (1) (a) (intro.)
24 and amended to read:

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1 348.08 (1) (a) (intro.) Two or 3 vehicles may, without such permit, be drawn or
2 attached when such vehicles are being transported by the drive-away method in
3 saddlemount combination and the overall length of such combination of vehicles does
4 not exceed the following:

5 3. When operating on a highway not identified in subd. 1. or 2., 75 feet.

6 **SECTION 4.** 348.08 (1) (a) 1. and 2. of the statutes are created to read:

7 348.08 (1) (a) 1. When operating on a highway designated as part of the
8 national system of interstate and defense highways under s. 84.29, 97 feet.

9 2. When operating on a highway designated under s. 348.07 (4), 97 feet.

10 **SECTION 5. Initial applicability.**

11 (1) This act first applies to vehicles operated on the effective date of this
12 subsection.

13

(END)