



State of Wisconsin  
2013 - 2014 LEGISLATURE



LRB-2913/2  
ARG:eev:jf

## 2013 SENATE BILL 509

January 22, 2014 – Introduced by Senators PETROWSKI, COWLES, GROTHMAN, GUDEx, HARSDORF, MOULTON and OLSEN, cosponsored by Representatives RIPP, BIES, BORN, BROOKS, CZAJA, DANOU, ENDSLEY, JAGLER, KAHL, KRUG, KULP, T. LARSON, MURPHY, MURSAU and A. OTT. Referred to Committee on Transportation, Public Safety, and Veterans and Military Affairs.

1       **AN ACT** *to repeal* 341.01 (2) (a), 347.21 (2), 348.05 (2) (c), 348.05 (3), 348.17 (6)  
2           (a) 3. and 348.27 (14); *to renumber* 100.47 (3); *to renumber and amend*  
3           348.05 (2g), 348.07 (2) (e) and 348.17 (5); *to amend* 100.47 (2) (c), 100.47 (4)  
4           (intro.), 341.05 (17), 346.09 (1), 346.09 (3) (b), 346.13 (1), (2) and (3), 347.21  
5           (1m), 347.22 (2), 347.245 (1), 347.245 (5), 348.05 (2) (a), 348.05 (2) (a), 348.06  
6           (2), 348.07 (1), 348.08 (1) (b), 348.08 (1) (d), 348.08 (2), 348.15 (3) (b), 348.15 (3)  
7           (d), 348.15 (3) (f) 2., 348.15 (8), 348.16 (2), 348.17 (6) (a) 2., 348.21 (3) (intro.),  
8           348.25 (4) (intro.), 348.25 (8) (b) (intro.), 348.25 (8) (e) and 348.25 (8) (f); *to*  
9           *repeal and recreate* 340.01 (24); and *to create* 100.47 (3) (b), 227.01 (13) (rs),  
10          340.01 (1o), 346.05 (1) (g), 346.13 (4), 347.24 (3), 347.25 (2g), 348.01 (2) (bg),  
11          348.01 (2) (bp), 348.02 (6), 348.03, 348.05 (2) (am), 348.05 (2g), 348.05 (2g) (b),  
12          348.07 (2) (e) 1., 348.07 (2m), 348.09 (3), 348.15 (3) (g), 348.15 (9), 348.17 (5) (a)

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- 1           1. and 2., 348.21 (3t) and 348.27 (19) of the statutes; **relating to:** operation of  
2           agricultural vehicles on highways and providing a penalty.
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***Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau******Definition of implement of husbandry***

Current law includes various provisions relating to the operation on highways of implements of husbandry and farm tractors. An “implement of husbandry” is generally defined as a vehicle or piece of equipment or machinery designed for agricultural purposes, used exclusively in the conduct of agricultural operations, and used principally off the highway, or a trailer-mounted bulk liquid fertilizer container. However, an “implement of husbandry” does not include certain vehicles, such as motor trucks or farm trucks, with or without a trailer attached, when operated as a commercial motor vehicle on a highway. A “farm tractor” is defined as a motor vehicle designed and used primarily as a farm implement for drawing plows, mowing machines, and other implements of husbandry.

This bill modifies the definition of implement of husbandry. Under the bill, an implement of husbandry is a self-propelled or towed vehicle that is manufactured, designed, or reconstructed to be used and that is exclusively used in the conduct of agricultural operations. An implement of husbandry includes a combination of vehicles in which each vehicle in the combination is an implement of husbandry. An implement of husbandry may include a farm tractor, a farm trailer, a self-propelled combine, or other vehicles.

***Definition and registration of agricultural commercial motor vehicles***

The bill creates a definition of an agricultural commercial motor vehicle. An agricultural commercial motor vehicle (agricultural CMV) is defined as a commercial motor vehicle to which all of the following apply: 1) the vehicle is substantially designed or equipped, or materially altered from its original construction, for the purpose of agricultural use; 2) the vehicle was designed and manufactured primarily for highway use and, with limited exceptions, was manufactured to meet federal motor vehicle highway safety standards; 3) the vehicle is used exclusively in the conduct of agricultural operations; and 4) the vehicle is directly engaged in harvesting farm products, directly applies fertilizer, spray, or seeds to a farm field, or distributes feed to livestock. An agricultural CMV is not an implement of husbandry.

Under the bill, an agricultural CMV is exempt from motor vehicle registration with the Department of Transportation (DOT).

Under the bill, the owner or operator of an agricultural CMV may certify, on a form prescribed by DOT, that the vehicle and its operation satisfy all requirements to be an agricultural CMV. This certification may be offered to DOT or any traffic officer as evidence of the truth of the matters asserted in the certification, but the certification is not conclusive of these matters.

**SENATE BILL 509*****Vehicle size and weight limitations***

Under current law, with limited exceptions, no person may operate on a highway any vehicle or combination of vehicles that exceeds certain statutory limits on size, weight, or load unless that person obtains a permit issued by DOT or a local highway authority. Current law imposes certain weight limitations on vehicles and vehicle combinations, including limitations based on the number and spacing of axles. Certain exceptions allow vehicles or vehicle combinations to operate without a permit at weights higher than the general statutory weight limitations. For example, from September 1 to December 31, a person may, without a permit, exceed the general statutory weight limitations by not more than 15 percent in certain vehicles or vehicle combinations that are: 1) transporting corn, soybeans, potatoes, vegetables, or cranberries from the field to storage or processing; or 2) transporting manure to or from a farm.

Also under current law, DOT or a local highway authority may impose special weight limits on highways that, because of weakness of the roadbed due to deterioration or climatic conditions or other special or temporary conditions, would likely be seriously damaged or destroyed in the absence of the special limits. If special weight limits are imposed, the limits must be posted by highway signs along the affected highways. The special weight limits apply regardless of whether a vehicle is being operated under an overweight permit unless the permit expressly authorizes the special weight limits to be exceeded.

Current law authorizes local authorities to designate highways under their jurisdiction as class “B” highways. With limited exceptions, the maximum gross weight and per-axle vehicle weight permitted for vehicles on a class “B” highway is 60 percent of the weight allowed by statute if the vehicle were operating on a highway that is not designated as a class “B” highway.

This bill creates an increased weight limit for all implements of husbandry and agricultural CMVs that is approximately 15 percent higher than the general statutory weight limit. For implements of husbandry, this increased weight allowance generally applies in lieu of, not in addition to, any other increased weight allowance for implements of husbandry. With this increased allowance, the maximum gross weight for an implement of husbandry or agricultural CMV operated on a highway without a permit may not exceed 92,000 pounds, although the increased weight allowance does not apply on interstate highways and there are limited exceptions (discussed below) to this 92,000 pound limit. If an implement of husbandry or agricultural CMV exceeds the increased weight allowance created under the bill, the amount of the overweight violation is computed based on the general statutory weight limitations, not on the weight allowance that is approximately 15 percent higher. If the implement of husbandry is an empty potato harvester and, if traveling on the highway for more than 0.25 miles, is accompanied by one or more escort vehicles operating with hazard lights activated, there is no per-axle weight limit for the potato harvester, but the potato harvester is subject to posted special weight limits and is subject to the maximum gross weight limitation of 92,000 pounds. In addition, a potato harvester is exempt from the reduction of permissible vehicle weight when operating on a highway designated by local

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authorities as a class “B” highway. Under the limited exceptions, there is no per-axle or gross weight limit, except on interstate highways and highways posted with special weight limits, for the following: 1) an implement of husbandry or agricultural CMV being operated or transported by a person engaged in the business of delivering, repairing, or servicing implements of husbandry or agricultural CMVs (implement dealer) or farmer for purposes of delivery, repair, or servicing and being operated or transported directly between a farmer’s owned or leased land and the business of an implement dealer located within 75 miles; and 2) certain self-propelled implements of husbandry, such as combines, forage harvesters, and fertilizer or pesticide application equipment, traveling between fields and operated on the highway for a distance of 0.25 miles or less.

Under current law, unless an exception applies, a person may not, without a permit, operate on a highway any vehicle having a total width in excess of 8 feet 6 inches. Under one exception, there is no width limitation for an implement of husbandry temporarily operated on a highway in the course of performance of its work. Under another exception, a farm tractor may have a total outside width of up to 12 feet or, if operated on most parts of the interstate highway system, 9 feet. Under yet another exception, a farm tractor exceeding 12 feet in width, and an implement of husbandry not being operated in the course of performance of its work and exceeding 8 feet 6 inches in width, may be moved, towed, or hauled over the highways, without a permit, between one-half hour before sunrise and sunset on Mondays to Thursdays and from one-half hour before sunrise to 2 p.m. on Fridays, but this exception generally does not apply on the interstate highway system. DOT may issue annual or consecutive month permits (farm machinery permits) for the movement, towing, or hauling of farm tractors exceeding 12 feet in width, and of implements of husbandry not being operated in the course of performance of their work and exceeding 8 feet 6 inches in width, on the interstate highway system.

Under this bill, there is generally no width limitation for implements of husbandry operated on a highway. However, certain wide implements of husbandry are subject to lighting and marking requirements (discussed below). There is also no width limitation if the implement of husbandry is being operated or transported by an implement dealer or farmer for purposes of delivery, repair, or servicing and being operated or transported directly between a farmer’s owned or leased land and the business of an implement dealer located within 75 miles, but, if applicable, the lighting and marking requirements for wide implements of husbandry (discussed below) apply. If the implement of husbandry is being transported rather than operated, certain provisions of current law relating to side projections of loads do not apply. The bill establishes a general total width limitation for agricultural commercial motor vehicles, operated without a permit, of 10 feet, but provides a total width limitation of 12 feet for agricultural CMVs operated for the purpose of spreading lime or fertilizer and having extending tires, fenders, or fender flares.

The bill also eliminates DOT’s issuance of farm machinery permits, repeals the general width limitation of 12 feet for farm tractors, and repeals the exception under current law authorizing the operation of certain farm tractors and implements of husbandry that would otherwise not be authorized on the highway between one-half

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hour before sunrise and sunset on Mondays to Thursdays and from one-half hour before sunrise to 2 p.m. on Fridays.

Under current law, unless an exception applies, a person may not, without a permit, operate on a highway any single vehicle with an overall length in excess of 45 feet or any combination of two vehicles with an overall length in excess of 70 feet. Under one exception, there is no length limitation for implements of husbandry temporarily operated on a highway.

Also under current law, unless an exception applies, a person may not, without a permit, operate on a highway any vehicle towing, or having attached to it, two or more other vehicles. Under one exception, two trailers used primarily as implements of husbandry in connection with seasonal agricultural activities or one such trailer and any other implement of husbandry may be towed by a farm tractor if the operation of the vehicle combination (implement of husbandry train) is exclusively a farming operation and not for the transportation of property for hire and if the overall length of the vehicle combination does not exceed 60 feet. Under another exception, two trailers transporting empty tanks used for hauling or storing liquid agricultural fertilizer or two implements of husbandry, including two empty trailers used primarily as implements of husbandry in connection with seasonal agricultural activities, may be towed by a motor truck or truck tractor if the overall length of the vehicle combination (truck-drawn agricultural train) does not exceed 60 feet.

This bill creates length limitations for implements of husbandry operated on a highway without a permit based in part on the number of vehicles being operated. Under the bill, if the implement of husbandry is a single vehicle, it may not exceed 60 feet in length. If the implement of husbandry is a two-vehicle combination, it may not exceed 100 feet in length. If the vehicle combination is an implement of husbandry train or a truck-drawn agricultural train, its length may not exceed 70 feet or, if it is traveling at a speed of 20 miles per hour or less, 100 feet. The bill also modifies the statutory description of an implement of husbandry train to specify that it consists of three implements of husbandry. The same length limitation that applies to a one-vehicle or two-vehicle implement of husbandry also applies if the one-vehicle or two-vehicle implement of husbandry is being operated or transported by an implement dealer or farmer for purposes of delivery, repair, or servicing and being operated or transported directly between a farmer's owned or leased land and the business of an implement dealer located within 75 miles.

Under current law, unless an exception applies, a person may not, without a permit, operate on a highway any vehicle having an overall height in excess of 13.5 feet. Under one exception, there is no height limitation for implements of husbandry temporarily operated on a highway.

Under this bill, there is no height limitation for implements of husbandry operated on a highway. The bill also specifies that the operator of the implement of husbandry is responsible for ensuring that there is adequate height clearance between the implement of husbandry and any overhead structure or obstruction.

The bill creates a new annual or consecutive month permit, referred to as a "no-fee permit," issued by DOT and local authorities for implements of husbandry and agricultural CMVs that exceed statutory length or weight limitations. For



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purposes of this no-fee permit, the bill defines a “maintaining authority” of a highway as: 1) DOT or its designee, with respect to a state trunk highway; or 2) the municipality or county responsible for maintenance of the highway or its designee (local authority), with respect to a highway that is not a state trunk highway. A maintaining authority may issue no-fee permits authorizing operation on highways under its jurisdiction of implements of husbandry and agricultural CMVs that exceed statutory length or weight limitations. A no-fee permit is not valid on interstate highways. With an exception, an application for a no-fee permit must be accompanied by a listing or map of the highways that may potentially be traveled under authorization of the permit. Under this exception, a municipality may, by resolution or ordinance, authorize operation of implements of husbandry and agricultural CMVs exceeding statutory length or weight limitations on any or all highways under the municipality’s jurisdiction and issue a form letter and copy of the resolution or ordinance to serve as the approved permit. In such a municipality, a no-fee permit application is not required to be accompanied by a listing or map of the highways to be traveled under the permit and is not required to be made on a form prescribed by DOT for the application. Upon application, a no-fee permit may be amended by the maintaining authority to reflect changes in the applicant’s circumstances, including a change in the highways to be traveled.

Under the bill, no fee may be charged for issuance or amendment of a no-fee permit or for any study or investigation in connection with the permit application. If a maintaining authority denies an application for a no-fee permit, it must notify the applicant in writing of the denial and the notice must include a reasonable and structurally based explanation of the denial that relates to the preservation of the roadway. If the application is made with respect to certain self-propelled implements of husbandry, including combines, forage harvesters, and fertilizer or pesticide application equipment, the denial must also include an approved alternate route or map of highways for operation of the implement of husbandry.

Under current law, if any bill introduced in either house of the legislature directly or indirectly establishes an exception to vehicle weight limitations, DOT must prepare a report, containing specified information, relating to the bill within six weeks after the bill is introduced and before any vote is taken on the bill. This bill directs DOT not to prepare such a report on this bill because DOT recently completed the Implements of Husbandry Study, which contained the same or similar information that would be contained in a report on this bill.

***Vehicle lighting and marking requirements***

Current law imposes various equipment requirements for vehicles operated on highways, including certain lighting and marking requirements. Although these requirements are generally inapplicable to implements of husbandry, farm tractors, and self-propelled farm implements, current law does impose various specific requirements with respect to lighting and marking of implements of husbandry and other agricultural vehicles.

Under current law, during hours of darkness, the following requirements apply with respect to each described vehicle operated on the highway:

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1. A farm tractor or self-propelled farm implement must carry the lighted headlamps and tail lamps that would be required of other vehicles and the only color of light that may show to the rear is red.

2. An implement of husbandry must generally be equipped with at least two lighted lamps or lanterns exhibiting a white light to the front and either two lighted lamps or lanterns exhibiting a red light to the rear or two red reflectors mounted on the rear. Also, if the implement of husbandry extends at least four feet to the left of the center line of a towing vehicle, it must be equipped with an amber reflector mounted on the left side, facing forward, to mark the extreme width of the implement of husbandry to drivers of oncoming vehicles.

3. A truck-drawn agricultural train must have mounted on each side of every vehicle in the train at least one lamp emitting red light visible to the side or at least one red reflector or one slow moving vehicle (SMV) emblem visible from the side.

4. An implement of husbandry train must have mounted on each side of every vehicle in the train at least one lamp emitting a red light visible to the side or at least one red reflector visible from the side.

Certain requirements also apply to a farm tractor, implement of husbandry, or self-propelled farm implement, whether attended or unattended, parked, or left standing on the roadway or shoulder of a highway during hours of darkness.

Under current law, at times other than hours of darkness, an implement of husbandry train operated on a highway must display a red flag at least 12 inches square on each rear corner of the rearmost vehicle in the train.

Under current law, a person may not operate on a highway, day or night, any vehicle that usually travels at speeds of less than 25 miles per hour unless an SMV emblem is displayed on the most practicable visible rear area. However, instead of the SMV emblem, a vehicle may be equipped with a yellow or amber flashing light at least four inches in diameter attached to the left rear. The SMV emblem is also not required if the vehicle is only moving directly across the highway. A towed vehicle is exempt from this requirement if an SMV emblem on the towing vehicle is visible from the rear. The SMV emblem must meet standards and specifications for design and mounting established by rule by DOT, but this rule must conform to standards and specifications approved by the American Society of Agricultural Engineers.

In addition to the lighting and marking requirements described above, this bill creates new lighting and marking requirements for implements of husbandry operated on the highway that exceed 15 feet in total width or that extend over the center of the roadway into a lane intended for the opposite direction of travel (wide implements of husbandry). A person may not operate on a highway a wide implement of husbandry manufactured before January 1, 2014, unless it is equipped with all of the following: 1) at least two amber flashing warning lamps, visible from both the front and rear; 2) red retroreflective conspicuity material, visible to the rear; 3) at least two strips of yellow retroreflective conspicuity material, visible to the front; and 4) at least two red tail lamps. Any lamp or light required above must be lighted and visible when the wide implement of husbandry is operated on a highway and the lamps or lights, devices, and material described above must generally be mounted so as to indicate the lateral extremities of the implement of husbandry. A

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wide implement of husbandry manufactured before January 1, 2014, must also display an SMV emblem. An implement of husbandry manufactured on or after January 1, 2014, may not be operated on a highway unless it is equipped with all lighting and marking devices with which the implement of husbandry was originally equipped by the manufacturer and all such lighting and marking devices are in good working order and visible at the time of operation.

Under the bill, a person may not operate on a highway any self-propelled implement of husbandry manufactured before January 1, 2014, that exceeds 12 feet in total width, unless it is equipped with a yellow or amber rotating strobe or beacon light mounted at the highest practicable point, or two flashing amber lights visible to the front and rear, and the light or lights are activated. If an implement of husbandry exceeds 20 feet in total width, in addition to the applicable foregoing requirements, it must be accompanied by an escort vehicle operating with hazard lights activated unless it is traveling between fields and operated on the highway for a distance of 0.25 miles or less.

The bill also eliminates the requirement that an implement of husbandry train operated on a highway during the day must display a red flag on each rear corner of the rearmost vehicle in the train.

***Rules of the road relating to implements of husbandry***

Under current law, on all roadways of sufficient width, the operator of a vehicle must generally drive on the right half of the roadway and in the right-hand lane of a three-lane highway, subject to various exceptions, such as when the operator is making a left turn or U-turn or is overtaking and passing another vehicle. A vehicle operator must also drive as nearly as practicable entirely within a single lane and, on a three-lane highway, may not drive in the center lane, subject to exceptions like those discussed above. With an exception, a vehicle operator may not drive in a lane when signs or signals indicate that the lane is allocated exclusively to vehicles moving in the opposite direction.

Also under current law, on a two-way roadway: 1) operators of vehicles proceeding in opposite directions must pass each other to the right and give to the other at least one-half of the main traveled portion of the roadway as nearly as possible; and 2) a vehicle operator may not drive on the left side of the center of the roadway on a grade or curve where the operator's view is obstructed or, with an exception, in an area designated by signs or pavement marking it as a no-passing zone. In general, a person may not drive a motor vehicle so slowly as to impede the normal movement of traffic and the operator of a slow-moving vehicle must, if practicable, yield the roadway to an overtaking vehicle.

This bill creates an exception allowing a wide implement of husbandry that satisfies applicable lighting and marking requirements and that is operated as much as practicable on the right half of the roadway and within a single lane to: 1) extend over the center of the roadway into a lane intended for travel in the opposite direction; 2) extend into the passing lane of a three-lane highway; and 3) extend into another lane intended for travel in the same direction if it does not impede other vehicles approaching from the rear. However, this exception does not exempt the operator of the wide implement of husbandry from the requirements and



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prohibitions above, specifying that a vehicle operator must pass a vehicle proceeding in the opposite direction on the right and yield half of the roadway if possible; a vehicle operator may not drive on the left side of the roadway on a grade or curve where the operator's view is obstructed or in an area designated as a no-passing zone; and a vehicle operator may not drive so slowly as to impede the normal movement of traffic and must, if practicable, yield the roadway to an overtaking vehicle.

Under current law, a vehicle operator may not drive on the left side of the center of a roadway designated, by signs or a solid yellow line, as a no-passing zone. However, under an exception, a vehicle operator may cross to the left of the center of the roadway in such a no-passing zone to overtake and pass, with care, any vehicle traveling at a speed less than half of the applicable speed limit. Under this bill, this exception does not apply with respect to overtaking and passing an implement of husbandry or an agricultural CMV.

***Required disclosures in sales of farm equipment***

Under current law, no person in the business of selling a tractor or other machinery used in the business of farming (farm equipment) may sell farm equipment unless, at the time of sale, the farm equipment is equipped with specified safety equipment, including lights, reflectors, and an SMV emblem meeting applicable vehicle equipment requirements, if the farm equipment can be operated on a highway. However, this requirement does not apply to sales of farm equipment to another person in the business of selling farm equipment for the purpose of resale, sales of farm equipment for the purpose of salvage, and most sales by auction. A person who violates this requirement may be required to forfeit not more than \$500 for each violation.

Under this bill, no person in the business of selling farm equipment may sell farm equipment that can be operated on a highway unless, at the time of sale, the person who sells the farm equipment discloses to the buyer the gross vehicle weight of the farm equipment. The exceptions and penalty described above also apply with respect to this requirement. The bill also specifies that lights, reflectors, and other marking devices with which farm equipment is required to be equipped at the time of sale are those meeting applicable vehicle equipment requirements at the time the farm equipment was manufactured.

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

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

1           **SECTION 1.** 100.47 (2) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           100.47 (2) (c) Lights and, reflectors, and other marking devices meeting the  
2 applicable requirements under ch. 347 at the time the farm equipment was  
3 manufactured, if farm equipment that can be operated on a highway.

4           **SECTION 2.** 100.47 (3) of the statutes is renumbered 100.47 (3) (a).

5           **SECTION 3.** 100.47 (3) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

6           100.47 (3) (b) No person in the business of selling farm equipment may sell  
7 farm equipment that can be operated on a highway unless, at the time of sale, the  
8 person who sells the farm equipment discloses to the buyer the gross vehicle weight  
9 of the farm equipment.

10          **SECTION 4.** 100.47 (4) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

11          100.47 (4) EXCEPTIONS. (intro.) ~~Subsection (2) does~~ Subsections (2) and (3) (b)  
12 do not apply to:

13          **SECTION 5.** 227.01 (13) (rs) of the statutes is created to read:

14          227.01 (13) (rs) Relates to any form prescribed by the department of  
15 transportation under s. 348.03 (1) or 348.27 (19) (d) 1. or procedure prescribed under  
16 s. 348.27 (19) (d) 2.

17          **SECTION 6.** 340.01 (1o) of the statutes is created to read:

18          340.01 (1o) “Agricultural commercial motor vehicle” means a commercial  
19 motor vehicle to which all of the following apply:

20           (a) The vehicle is substantially designed or equipped, or materially altered  
21 from its original construction, for the purpose of agricultural use.

22           (b) The vehicle was designed and manufactured primarily for highway use.

23           (c) Unless the vehicle is a former military vehicle, as defined in s. 341.01 (2) (af),  
24 or was manufactured prior to 1970, the vehicle was manufactured to meet federal

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1 motor vehicle safety standard certification label requirements as specified in 49 CFR  
2 567.

3 (d) The vehicle is used exclusively in the conduct of agricultural operations.

4 (e) The vehicle is directly engaged in harvesting farm products, directly applies  
5 fertilizer, spray, or seeds to a farm field, or distributes feed to livestock.

6 **SECTION 7.** 340.01 (24) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

7 340.01 (24) (a) Subject to par. (b), “implement of husbandry” means all of the  
8 following:

9 1. A self-propelled or towed vehicle that is manufactured, designed, or  
10 reconstructed to be used and that is exclusively used in the conduct of agricultural  
11 operations. An “implement of husbandry” may include any of the following:

12 a. A farm tractor.

13 b. A self-propelled combine; a self-propelled forage harvester; self-propelled  
14 fertilizer or pesticide application equipment but not including manure application  
15 equipment; towed tillage, planting, and cultivation equipment and its towing power  
16 unit; or another self-propelled vehicle that directly engages in harvesting farm  
17 products, directly applies fertilizer, spray, or seeds but not manure, or distributes  
18 feed to livestock.

19 c. A farm wagon, farm trailer, manure trailer, or trailer adapted to be towed by,  
20 or to tow or pull, another implement of husbandry.

21 2. A combination of vehicles in which each vehicle in the vehicle combination  
22 is an implement of husbandry as described in subd. 1.

23 (b) “Implement of husbandry” does not include any of the following:

24 1. An agricultural commercial motor vehicle.

**SENATE BILL 509****SECTION 7**

1           2. A vehicle that, notwithstanding s. 340.01 (8), is a commercial motor vehicle  
2 under 49 CFR 390.5.

3           **SECTION 8.** 341.01 (2) (a) of the statutes, as affected by 2013 Wisconsin Act 103,  
4 is repealed.

5           **SECTION 9.** 341.05 (17) of the statutes is amended to read:

6           341.05 (17) The vehicle is an implement of husbandry or an agricultural  
7 commercial motor vehicle.

8           **SECTION 10.** 346.05 (1) (g) of the statutes is created to read:

9           346.05 (1) (g) If the vehicle is a wide implement of husbandry, as defined in s.  
10 347.24 (3) (a), being operated in compliance with any applicable requirement under  
11 s. 347.24 (3), 347.245 (1), or 347.25 (2g), and the vehicle is operated as much as  
12 practicable on the right half of the roadway and in the right-hand lane of a 3-lane  
13 highway, a portion of the vehicle may extend over the center of the roadway into any  
14 lane intended for travel in the opposite direction and may extend into any passing  
15 lane of a 3-lane highway. A wide implement of husbandry operated as described in  
16 this paragraph is subject to any restriction under ss. 346.06, 346.09 (2) and (3), and  
17 346.59.

18           **SECTION 11.** 346.09 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

19           346.09 (1) Upon any roadway where traffic is permitted to move in both  
20 directions simultaneously, the operator of a vehicle shall not drive to the left side of  
21 the center of the roadway in overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in  
22 the same direction unless such left side is clearly visible and is free of oncoming  
23 traffic for a sufficient distance ahead to permit such overtaking and passing to be  
24 done in safety. In no case when overtaking and passing on a roadway divided into  
25 4 or more clearly indicated lanes shall the operator of a vehicle drive to the left of the



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1 pavement marking indicating allocation of lanes to vehicles moving in the opposite  
2 direction or, in the absence of such marking, to the left of the center of the roadway.  
3 Except as provided in sub. (3) (b) and s. 346.05 (1) (g), in no case shall the operator  
4 of a vehicle drive in a lane when signs or signals indicate that such lane is allocated  
5 exclusively to vehicles moving in the opposite direction.

6 **SECTION 12.** 346.09 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 346.09 (3) (b) The operator of a vehicle may drive on the left side of the center  
8 of a roadway on any portion thereof which has been designated a no-passing zone,  
9 as described in par. (a), to overtake and pass, with care, any vehicle, except an  
10 implement of husbandry or agricultural commercial motor vehicle, traveling at a  
11 speed less than half of the applicable speed limit at the place of passing.

12 **SECTION 13.** 346.13 (1), (2) and (3) of the statutes are amended to read:

13 346.13 (1) ~~The~~ Except as provided in sub. (4), the operator of a vehicle shall  
14 drive as nearly as practicable entirely within a single lane and shall not deviate from  
15 the traffic lane in which the operator is driving without first ascertaining that such  
16 movement can be made with safety to other vehicles approaching from the rear.

17 (2) ~~Upon~~ Except as provided in s. 346.05 (1) (g), upon a 2-way roadway which  
18 is divided into 3 lanes the operator of a vehicle may not drive in the center lane except  
19 when overtaking and passing another vehicle where the roadway is clearly visible  
20 and the center lane is clear of traffic within a safe distance, or in preparation for a  
21 left turn or U-turn, or where the center lane is at the time allocated exclusively to  
22 traffic moving in the direction the vehicle is proceeding and is marked or posted to  
23 give notice of the allocation.

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1           **(3)** Notwithstanding sub. (2), but subject to sub. (4), when lanes have been  
2 marked or posted for traffic moving in a particular direction or at designated speeds,  
3 the operator of a vehicle shall drive in the lane designated.

4           **SECTION 14.** 346.13 (4) of the statutes is created to read:

5           346.13 (4) Upon a 2-way roadway with at least 2 lanes for travel in each  
6 direction, a wide implement of husbandry, as defined in s. 347.24 (3) (a), that is being  
7 operated in compliance with any applicable requirement under s. 347.24 (3), 347.245  
8 (1), or 347.25 (2g), and that is being operated as much as practicable within a single  
9 lane may, to the extent necessary, extend into another lane intended for travel in the  
10 same direction if it does not impede other vehicles approaching from the rear.

11           **SECTION 15.** 347.21 (1m) of the statutes is amended to read:

12           347.21 (1m) No person shall operate on a highway during hours of darkness  
13 any train of vehicles authorized by s. 348.08 (1) (b) unless there is mounted on each  
14 side of every vehicle in such train, ~~including farm tractors and implements of~~  
15 ~~husbandry~~, at least one lamp emitting ~~a red~~ an amber light visible from a distance  
16 of 500 feet to the side of the vehicle on which mounted or, in lieu thereof, at least one  
17 red reflector visible from all distances within 500 feet to 50 feet of the side of the  
18 vehicle when directly in front of lawful upper beams of headlamps.

19           **SECTION 16.** 347.21 (2) of the statutes is repealed.

20           **SECTION 17.** 347.22 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

21           347.22 (2) ~~No~~ Except as provided in s. 347.25 (2g), ~~no~~ person shall operate or  
22 park a farm tractor, self-propelled farm implement, or lightweight utility vehicle, as  
23 defined in s. 346.94 (21) (a) 2., upon a highway during hours of darkness with any  
24 lamp thereon showing any light to the rear other than red or amber in color.

25           **SECTION 18.** 347.24 (3) of the statutes is created to read:

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1           347.24 (3) (a) In this subsection, “wide implement of husbandry” means any  
2           implement of husbandry that has a total width in excess of 15 feet or that partly  
3           extends, when operated primarily on the right half of the roadway, over the center  
4           of the roadway into any lane intended for travel in the opposite direction.

5           (b) No person may operate on a highway any wide implement of husbandry  
6           manufactured before January 1, 2014, unless it is equipped with all of the following  
7           and any lamp or light required under this paragraph is lighted and visible at the time  
8           of operation:

9           1. At least 2 amber flashing warning lamps, visible from both the front and rear  
10          of the implement of husbandry. These lamps shall be mounted, as nearly as  
11          practicable, to indicate the extreme width of the implement of husbandry, but not  
12          more than 16 inches from the lateral extremities of the implement of husbandry.

13          2. Red retroreflective conspicuity material, visible to the rear and mounted  
14          within 25 inches of, respectively, the extreme left and extreme right of the implement  
15          of husbandry and spaced as evenly as practicable.

16          3. At least 2 strips of yellow retroreflective conspicuity material visible to the  
17          front of the implement of husbandry. On the left and right sides of the implement  
18          of husbandry, the outer edge of at least one strip of this material shall be mounted  
19          within 16 inches of, respectively, the extreme left and extreme right of the implement  
20          of husbandry.

21          4. Subject to ss. 347.06 (1) and (3), 347.13 (2), and 347.22 (1), at least 2 red tail  
22          lamps mounted symmetrically to the rear of the implement of husbandry, or as close  
23          to the rear as practicable.

24          (c) In addition to any applicable requirement under par. (b), if a wide implement  
25          of husbandry has a total width in excess of 20 feet, no person may operate the

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1 implement of husbandry on a highway unless the implement of husbandry is  
2 accompanied by an escort vehicle operating with hazard lights activated. If the  
3 implement of husbandry is being operated on a highway with only one lane for travel  
4 in each direction, the escort vehicle shall be operated ahead of the implement of  
5 husbandry on the highway. If the implement of husbandry is being operated on a  
6 highway with more than one lane for travel in each direction or on a 3-lane highway,  
7 the escort vehicle shall be operated behind the implement of husbandry on the  
8 highway. This paragraph does not apply to an implement of husbandry that is  
9 traveling between fields and operated on the highway for a distance of 0.25 miles or  
10 less.

11 (d) No person may operate on a highway any implement of husbandry  
12 manufactured on or after January 1, 2014, unless it is equipped with all lighting and  
13 marking devices with which the implement of husbandry was originally equipped by  
14 the manufacturer and all such lighting and marking devices are in good working  
15 order and visible at the time of operation.

16 (e) The requirements under this subsection apply in addition to any applicable  
17 requirements under subs. (1) and (2) and ss. 347.21, 347.22, and 347.27.

18 **SECTION 19.** 347.245 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 347.245 (1) After January 1, 1970, no person may operate on a highway, day  
20 or night, any vehicle or equipment, any animal-drawn vehicle, or any other  
21 machinery, including all road machinery, that usually travels at speeds of less than  
22 25 miles per hour or any vehicle operated under a special restricted operator's license  
23 issued under s. 343.135 or any lightweight utility vehicle, as defined in s. 346.94 (21)  
24 (a) 2., or any wide implement of husbandry, as defined in s. 347.24 (3) (a), that is  
25 manufactured before January 1, 2014, unless there is displayed on the most



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1 practicable visible rear area of the vehicle or combination of vehicles, a slow moving  
2 vehicle (SMV) emblem as described in and displayed as provided in sub. (2). Any  
3 towed vehicle or machine is exempt from this provision if the towing vehicle is visible  
4 from the rear and is in compliance with this section. All road machinery is excluded  
5 when it is engaged in actual construction or maintenance work either guarded by a  
6 flagman or clearly visible warning signs. Except as provided in s. 347.21 (1), the  
7 requirement of the emblem shall be in addition to any lighting devices required or  
8 permitted by law. Mopeds and motor bicycles are excluded from the provisions of this  
9 section unless they are operated under a special restricted operator's license issued  
10 under s. 343.135. Electric personal assistive mobility devices are excluded from the  
11 provisions of this section. The SMV emblem need not be displayed on vehicles  
12 moving directly across the highway.

13 **SECTION 20.** 347.245 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 347.245 (5) This section does not apply to any vehicle or combination of vehicles  
15 to the left rear of which is attached a yellow or amber flashing light at least 4 inches  
16 in diameter, except to a wide implement of husbandry, as defined in s. 347.24 (3) (a),  
17 that is manufactured before January 1, 2014.

18 **SECTION 21.** 347.25 (2g) of the statutes is created to read:

19 347.25 (2g) No person may operate on a highway any self-propelled implement  
20 of husbandry manufactured before January 1, 2014, and having a total width in  
21 excess of 12 feet, unless it is equipped with a 360-degree yellow or amber rotating  
22 strobe or beacon light, mounted at the highest practicable point, or 2 flashing amber  
23 lights visible to the front and rear, and the light or lights are activated.

24 **SECTION 22.** 348.01 (2) (bg) of the statutes is created to read:

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1           348.01 (2) (bg) “Implement dealer” means any person engaged in the business  
2 of delivering, repairing, or servicing implements of husbandry or agricultural  
3 commercial motor vehicles.

4           **SECTION 23.** 348.01 (2) (bp) of the statutes is created to read:

5           348.01 (2) (bp) “Potato harvester” means a self-propelled implement of  
6 husbandry designed and used exclusively for harvesting potatoes.

7           **SECTION 24.** 348.02 (6) of the statutes is created to read:

8           348.02 (6) The provisions of this chapter apply to implements of husbandry and  
9 agricultural commercial motor vehicles.

10          **SECTION 25.** 348.03 of the statutes is created to read:

11          **348.03 Self-certification for agricultural commercial motor vehicles.**

12          (1) The department shall prescribe a form for the owner or operator of an  
13 agricultural commercial motor vehicle to certify that the vehicle and its operation  
14 satisfy all requirements specified in the definition under s. 340.01 (1o).

15          (2) The certification on the form under sub. (1) of an owner or operator of an  
16 agricultural commercial motor vehicle may be offered to the department or any  
17 traffic officer as evidence of the truth of the matters asserted in the certification, but  
18 the certification is not conclusive of such matters.

19          **SECTION 26.** 348.05 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

20          348.05 (2) (a) No limitation for implements of husbandry temporarily operated  
21 upon a highway in the course of performance of its work.

22          **SECTION 27.** 348.05 (2) (a) of the statutes, as affected by 2013 Wisconsin Act ....  
23 (this act), is amended to read:

24          348.05 (2) (a) No Subject to ss. 347.24 (3), 347.245 (1), and 347.25 (2g), no  
25 limitation for implements of husbandry.

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1           **SECTION 28.** 348.05 (2) (am) of the statutes is created to read:

2           348.05 (2) (am) Ten feet for an agricultural commercial motor vehicle, except  
3 that, if the agricultural commercial motor vehicle is operated for purposes of  
4 spreading lime or fertilizer but not including manure application and has extending  
5 tires, fenders, or fender flares, the total outside width of the agricultural commercial  
6 motor vehicle may not exceed 12 feet.

7           **SECTION 29.** 348.05 (2) (c) of the statutes is repealed.

8           **SECTION 30.** 348.05 (2g) of the statutes is created to read:

9           348.05 (2g) Subsection (2) (a) also applies to implements of husbandry while  
10 being operated or transported by an implement dealer or farmer for purposes of  
11 delivery, repair, or servicing of the implement of husbandry if the implement of  
12 husbandry is being operated or transported under either of the following  
13 circumstances:

14           (a) Directly from a farmer's owned or leased land to the business location of an  
15 implement dealer that is within a 75-mile radius of the farmer's owned or leased  
16 land.

17           (b) Directly from the business location of an implement dealer to a farmer's  
18 owned or leased land that is within a 75-mile radius of the implement dealer's  
19 business location.

20           **SECTION 31.** 348.05 (2g) of the statutes, as created by 2013 Wisconsin Act ...  
21 (this act), is renumbered 348.05 (2g) (a), and 348.05 (2g) (a) (intro.), as renumbered,  
22 is amended to read:

23           348.05 (2g) (a) (intro.) Subsection Subject to par. (b), subsection (2) (a) also  
24 applies to implements of husbandry while being operated or transported by an  
25 implement dealer or farmer for purposes of delivery, repair, or servicing of the

**SENATE BILL 509****SECTION 31**

1 implement of husbandry if the implement of husbandry is being operated or  
2 transported under either of the following circumstances:

3 **SECTION 32.** 348.05 (2g) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

4 348.05 (2g) (b) Paragraph (a) applies only if the person operating or  
5 transporting the implement of husbandry complies with ss. 347.24 (3), 347.245 (1),  
6 and 347.25 (2g), as applicable. For purposes of this paragraph, the requirements  
7 under ss. 347.24 (3), 347.245 (1), and 347.25 (2g) shall apply to an implement of  
8 husbandry being transported to the same extent as if the implement of husbandry  
9 were being operated.

10 **SECTION 33.** 348.05 (3) of the statutes is repealed.

11 **SECTION 34.** 348.06 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

12 348.06 (2) Implements of husbandry of any height may be temporarily  
13 operated upon a highway without a permit for excessive height. The operator of the  
14 implement of husbandry is responsible for ensuring that there is adequate height  
15 clearance between the implement of husbandry and any overhead structure or  
16 obstruction, including any utility line.

17 **SECTION 35.** 348.07 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 348.07 (1) No person, without a permit therefor, may operate on a highway any  
19 single vehicle with an overall length in excess of 45 feet or any combination of 2  
20 vehicles with an overall length in excess of 70 feet, except as otherwise provided in  
21 subs. (2), (2a), (2m), and (4m) and s. 348.08 (1).

22 **SECTION 36.** 348.07 (2) (e) of the statutes is renumbered 348.07 (2) (e) 2. and  
23 amended to read:

24 348.07 (2) (e) 2. ~~No limitation~~ One hundred feet for implements of husbandry  
25 ~~temporarily operated upon a highway~~ that are 2-vehicle combinations.



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1           **SECTION 37.** 348.07 (2) (e) 1. of the statutes is created to read:

2           348.07 **(2)** (e) 1. Sixty feet for an implement of husbandry that is a single  
3 vehicle.

4           **SECTION 38.** 348.07 (2m) of the statutes is created to read:

5           348.07 **(2m)** Subsection (2) (e) also applies to implements of husbandry while  
6 being operated or transported by an implement dealer or farmer for purposes of  
7 delivery, repair, or servicing of the implement of husbandry if the implement of  
8 husbandry is being operated or transported under either of the following  
9 circumstances:

10           (a) Directly from a farmer's owned or leased land to the business location of an  
11 implement dealer that is within a 75-mile radius of the farmer's owned or leased  
12 land.

13           (b) Directly from the business location of an implement dealer to a farmer's  
14 owned or leased land that is within a 75-mile radius of the implement dealer's  
15 business location.

16           **SECTION 39.** 348.08 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

17           348.08 **(1)** (b) ~~Two trailers used primarily as implements of husbandry in~~  
18 ~~connection with seasonal agricultural activities or one such trailer and any other~~  
19 ~~implement of husbandry may, without such permit, be drawn by a farm tractor if the~~  
20 ~~operation of such combination of vehicles is exclusively a farming operation and not~~  
21 ~~for the transportation of property for hire and, or attached to, another implement of~~  
22 husbandry if the overall length of such combination of vehicles does not exceed 60  
23 70 feet, or 100 feet if the vehicle combination is traveling at a speed of not more than  
24 20 miles per hour.

25           **SECTION 40.** 348.08 (1) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           348.08 (1) (d) Two trailers transporting empty pressurized or nonpressurized  
2 tanks used for hauling or storing liquid agricultural fertilizer or 2 implements of  
3 husbandry, including 2 empty trailers used primarily as implements of husbandry  
4 in connection with seasonal agricultural activities, may, without such permit, be  
5 drawn by a motor truck ~~or, truck tractor, or agricultural commercial motor vehicle~~  
6 if the overall length of such combination of vehicles and load does not exceed ~~60~~ 70  
7 feet ~~or, if the vehicle combination is traveling at a speed of not more than 20 miles~~  
8 ~~per hour, 100 feet.~~ For purposes of this paragraph, “empty” means less than 20% full.

9           **SECTION 41.** 348.08 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

10           348.08 (2) Whenever any train of ~~agricultural vehicles~~ implements of  
11 husbandry is being operated under sub. (1) (b), the train shall be equipped as  
12 provided in s. 347.21 (1m) ~~and (2)~~. Whenever any train of agricultural vehicles is  
13 being operated under sub. (1) (d), the train shall be equipped as provided in s. 347.21  
14 (1) ~~and (2)~~. The trailer hitches of a train of ~~agricultural vehicles~~ described in this  
15 subsection shall be of a positive nature so as to prevent accidental release.

16           **SECTION 42.** 348.09 (3) of the statutes is created to read:

17           348.09 (3) This section does not apply if the load is an implement of husbandry  
18 or agricultural commercial motor vehicle being transported as provided in s. 348.05  
19 (2g).

20           **SECTION 43.** 348.15 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

21           348.15 (3) (b) The gross weight imposed on the highway by the wheels of any  
22 one axle may not exceed 20,000 pounds or, if the vehicle or combination of vehicles  
23 is an implement of husbandry or agricultural commercial motor vehicle, 23,000  
24 pounds. In addition, the gross weight imposed on the highway by the wheels of the  
25 steering axle of a truck tractor may not exceed 13,000 pounds unless the

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1 manufacturer's rated capacity of the axle and the tires is sufficient to carry the  
2 weight, but not to exceed 20,000 pounds.

3 **SECTION 44.** 348.15 (3) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 348.15 (3) (d) Notwithstanding ~~par.~~ pars. (c) and (g), 2 consecutive sets of  
5 tandem axles may impose on the highway a gross load of 34,000 pounds each if the  
6 overall distance between the first and last axles of such consecutive sets of tandem  
7 axles is 36 feet or more.

8 **SECTION 45.** 348.15 (3) (f) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

9 348.15 (3) (f) 2. Notwithstanding pars. (a) to (c) and (g), sub. (4), and ss. 348.17  
10 and 349.16, and subject to subd. 3., in the case of a heavy-duty vehicle equipped with  
11 idle reduction technology, the gross weight of the vehicle, and the gross weight  
12 imposed on the highway by the wheels of any one axle or axle group of the vehicle,  
13 may exceed the applicable weight limitation specified in pars. (a) to (c) or (g) or posted  
14 as provided in s. 348.17 (1) by not more than 400 pounds or the weight of the idle  
15 reduction technology, whichever is less.

16 **SECTION 46.** 348.15 (3) (g) of the statutes is created to read:

17 348.15 (3) (g) Notwithstanding par. (c), if the vehicle or combination of vehicles  
18 is an implement of husbandry or agricultural commercial motor vehicle, the gross  
19 weight imposed on the highway by any group of 2 or more consecutive axles of the  
20 vehicle or vehicle combination may not exceed the maximum gross weights in the  
21 following table for each of the respective distances between axles and the respective  
22 numbers of axles of a group: [See Figure 348.15 (3) (g) following]

**SENATE BILL 509****SECTION 46****Figure 348.15 (3) (g):**

Maximum gross weight in pounds on a group of—

Distances in feet between foremost and rear-most axles of a group	2 axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles	3 axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles	4 axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles	5 axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles	6 axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles	7 axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles	8 axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles
4	39,500	45,000	51,500	58,500	65,000	72,000	79,000
5	40,500	46,000	52,500	59,000	66,000	72,500	79,500
6	41,500	47,000	53,000	60,000	66,500	73,500	80,000
7	43,000	47,500	54,000	60,500	67,000	74,000	80,500
8	44,000	48,500	54,500	61,000	68,000	74,500	81,500
9	45,000	49,500	55,500	62,000	68,500	75,500	82,000
10	46,000	50,500	56,000	62,500	69,000	76,000	82,500
11		51,000	57,000	63,500	70,000	76,500	83,500
12		52,000	57,500	64,000	70,500	77,500	84,000
13		53,000	58,500	65,000	71,500	78,000	84,500
14		53,500	59,500	65,500	72,000	78,500	85,500
15		54,500	60,000	66,000	72,500	79,500	86,000
16		55,500	61,000	67,000	73,500	80,000	86,500
17		56,500	61,500	67,500	74,000	80,500	87,500
18		57,000	62,500	68,500	75,000	81,500	88,000
19		58,000	63,000	69,000	75,500	82,000	88,500
20		59,000	64,000	70,000	76,000	82,500	89,500
21		60,000	64,500	70,500	77,000	83,500	90,000
22		60,500	65,500	71,500	77,500	84,000	90,500
23		61,500	66,000	72,000	78,000	84,500	91,500
24		62,500	67,000	72,500	79,000	85,500	92,000
25		63,000	67,500	73,500	79,500	86,000	
26		64,000	68,500	74,000	80,500	86,500	
27		65,000	69,000	75,000	81,000	87,500	
28		66,000	70,000	75,500	81,500	88,000	
29			71,000	76,500	82,500	88,500	

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Distances in feet between foremost and rear-most axles of a group	2 axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles	3 axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles	4 axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles	5 axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles	6 axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles	7 axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles	8 axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles
30			71,500	77,000	83,000	89,500	
31			72,500	77,500	83,500	90,000	
32			73,000	78,500	84,500	90,500	
33			74,000	79,000	85,000	91,500	
34			74,500	80,000	86,000	92,000	
35			75,500	80,500	86,500		
36			76,000	81,500	87,000		
37			77,000	82,000	88,000		
38			77,500	83,000	88,500		
39			78,000	83,500	89,500		
40			79,000	84,000	90,000		
41			80,000	85,000	90,500		
42			80,500	85,500	91,500		
43			81,500	86,500	92,000		
44			82,500	87,000			
45			83,000	88,000			
46			84,000	88,500			
47			84,500	89,000			
48			85,500	90,000			
49			86,000	90,500			
50			87,000	91,500			
51			87,500	92,000			
52			88,500				
53			89,000				
54			90,000				
55			90,500				
56			91,500				
57			92,000				

1

**SECTION 47.** 348.15 (8) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           348.15 (8) Unless the department provides otherwise by rule, any axle of a  
2 vehicle or combination of vehicles which does not impose on the highway at least 8%  
3 of the gross weight of the vehicle or combination of vehicles may not be counted as  
4 an axle for the purposes of sub. (3) (c) and (g).

5           **SECTION 48.** 348.15 (9) of the statutes is created to read:

6           348.15 (9) (a) Except as provided in pars. (c) and (e), the increased weight  
7 allowance for implements of husbandry and agricultural commercial motor vehicles  
8 under sub. (3) (b) and (g) applies in lieu of, not in addition to, any other increased  
9 weight allowance for implements of husbandry authorized under this chapter.

10          (b) Except as provided in par. (e), the maximum gross weight for an implement  
11 of husbandry or agricultural commercial motor vehicle operated on a highway  
12 without a permit may not exceed 92,000 pounds.

13          (c) 1. Notwithstanding sub. (3) (b), (c), and (g), there is no weight limitation per  
14 wheel, axle, or group of axles for an implement of husbandry that is an empty potato  
15 harvester if, subject to subd. 2., the potato harvester is accompanied by one or more  
16 escort vehicles operating with hazard lights activated, except that such a potato  
17 harvester is subject to any weight limitation posted as provided in s. 348.17 (1).  
18 Except as provided in par. (e), a potato harvester is subject to the maximum gross  
19 weight limitation for implements of husbandry specified in par. (b).

20          2. A potato harvester is not required to be accompanied by any escort vehicle  
21 under subd. 1. if the potato harvester is traveling between fields and operated on the  
22 highway for a distance of 0.25 miles or less.

23          (d) The increased weight allowance for implements of husbandry and  
24 agricultural commercial motor vehicles under sub. (3) (b) and (g) does not apply on  
25 any highway that is a part of the national system of interstate and defense highways.



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1 (e) 1. Notwithstanding par. (c) and sub. (3) (b), (c), and (g), but subject to subd.  
2 3., there is no weight limitation per wheel, axle, or group of axles, and no gross weight  
3 limitation, for an implement of husbandry or agricultural commercial motor vehicle  
4 while being operated or transported by an implement dealer or farmer for purposes  
5 of delivery, repair, or servicing of the implement of husbandry or agricultural  
6 commercial motor vehicle if the implement of husbandry or agricultural commercial  
7 motor vehicle is being operated or transported under either of the following  
8 circumstances:

9 a. Directly from a farmer's owned or leased land to the business location of an  
10 implement dealer that is within a 75-mile radius of the farmer's owned or leased  
11 land.

12 b. Directly from the business location of an implement dealer to a farmer's  
13 owned or leased land that is within a 75-mile radius of the implement dealer's  
14 business location.

15 2. Notwithstanding par. (c) and sub. (3) (b), (c), and (g), but subject to subd. 3.,  
16 there is no weight limitation per wheel, axle, or group of axles, and no gross weight  
17 limitation, for an implement of husbandry described in s. 340.01 (24) (a) 1. b. that is  
18 traveling between fields and operated on the highway for a distance of 0.25 miles or  
19 less.

20 3. Subdivisions 1. and 2. do not apply on any highway that is a part of the  
21 national system of interstate and defense highways or that is posted with a weight  
22 limitation as provided in s. 348.17 (1).

23 **SECTION 49.** 348.16 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

24 348.16 (2) Except as provided in sub. (3) and s. 348.175 and subject to any  
25 modifications made by a city of the first class pursuant to s. 349.15 (3), no person,

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1 without a permit therefor, shall operate on a class “B” highway any vehicle or  
2 combination of vehicles imposing wheel, axle, group of axles, or gross weight on the  
3 highway exceeding 60 percent of the weights authorized in s. 348.15 (3). This  
4 subsection does not apply to a potato harvester or an implement of husbandry or  
5 agricultural commercial motor vehicle being operated or transported as described in  
6 s. 348.15 (9) (e).

7 **SECTION 50.** 348.17 (5) of the statutes is renumbered 348.17 (5) (a) and  
8 amended to read:

9 348.17 (5) (a) From September 1 to December 31 of each year, no permit shall  
10 be required for the transportation of corn, soybeans, potatoes, vegetables, or  
11 cranberries from the field to storage on the grower’s owned or leased land, from the  
12 field to initial storage at a location not owned or leased by the grower, or from the field  
13 to initial processing in a vehicle or combination of vehicles ~~having a registered gross~~  
14 ~~weight of 50,000 pounds or more or described in s. 340.01 (24) (b) that exceeds the~~  
15 ~~weight limitations under s. 348.15 by not more than 15 percent.~~ and that satisfies  
16 any of the following:

17 (b) This subsection does not apply to the national system of interstate and  
18 defense highways, except for that portion of I 39 between USH 51 and I 90/94.

19 **SECTION 51.** 348.17 (5) (a) 1. and 2. of the statutes are created to read:

20 348.17 (5) (a) 1. Has a registered gross weight of 50,000 pounds or more.

21 2. Is a motor truck, farm truck, road tractor, truck tractor, or farm truck tractor  
22 or such a vehicle combined with a semitrailer, trailer, or farm trailer, when the  
23 vehicle or combination is a commercial motor vehicle operated on a highway.

24 **SECTION 52.** 348.17 (6) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           348.17 (6) (a) 2. ~~Is described in s. 340.01 (24) (b) a motor truck, farm truck, road~~  
2           ~~tractor, truck tractor, or farm truck tractor or such a vehicle combined with a~~  
3           ~~semitrailer, trailer, or farm trailer, when the vehicle or combination is a commercial~~  
4           ~~motor vehicle operated on a highway.~~

5           **SECTION 53.** 348.17 (6) (a) 3. of the statutes is repealed.

6           **SECTION 54.** 348.21 (3) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

7           348.21 (3) (intro.) Except as provided in sub. (3g), and subject to sub. (3t), any  
8           person violating s. 348.15 or 348.16 or any weight limitation posted as provided in  
9           s. 348.17 (1) or in a declaration issued under s. 348.175 or authorized under s. 348.17  
10          (3), (5), or (6) or in an overweight permit issued under s. 348.26 or 348.27 may be  
11          penalized as follows:

12          **SECTION 55.** 348.21 (3t) of the statutes is created to read:

13          348.21 (3t) (a) In the case of a violation of s. 348.15 (3) (g), the penalty shall be  
14          computed on the basis of the weights stated in s. 348.15 (3) (c).

15          (b) In the case of a violation of s. 348.15 (3) (b) involving an implement of  
16          husbandry or agricultural commercial motor vehicle, the penalty shall be computed  
17          on the basis of a permissible weight of 20,000 pounds.

18          **SECTION 56.** 348.25 (4) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

19          348.25 (4) (intro.) Except as provided under s. 348.26 (4), (6), or (7) or 348.27  
20          (3), (3m), (4m), (9), (9m), (9r), (9t), (10), (12), (15), (16), ~~or (18)~~, or (19), permits shall  
21          be issued only for the transporting of a single article or vehicle which exceeds  
22          statutory size, weight or load limitations and which cannot reasonably be divided or  
23          reduced to comply with statutory size, weight or load limitations, except that:

24          **SECTION 57.** 348.25 (8) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           348.25 (8) (b) (intro.) ~~Unless~~ Except as provided in s. 348.27 (19) (c) 5., unless  
2 a different fee is specifically provided, the department shall charge the following fees  
3 for the first permit and each subsequent or revalidated annual or multiple trip  
4 permit issued under s. 348.27 except that no fee may be charged for the amendment  
5 of a permit under s. 348.27 (3m):

6           **SECTION 58.** 348.25 (8) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

7           348.25 (8) (e) ~~The~~ Except as provided in s. 348.27 (19) (c) 5., the officer or agency  
8 authorized to issue a permit under s. 348.26 or 348.27 may require any applicant for  
9 a permit under s. 348.26 or 348.27 to pay the cost of any special investigation  
10 undertaken to determine whether a permit should be approved or denied.

11           **SECTION 59.** 348.25 (8) (f) of the statutes is amended to read:

12           348.25 (8) (f) Any local officer or agency authorized to issue a permit under s.  
13 348.26 or 348.27 may charge a permit issuance fee for each permit issued under s.  
14 348.26 and for the first and each subsequent or revalidated permit issued under s.  
15 348.27. This paragraph does not apply to the amendment of a permit under s. 348.27  
16 (3m) or to a permit issued under s. 348.27 (19).

17           **SECTION 60.** 348.27 (14) of the statutes is repealed.

18           **SECTION 61.** 348.27 (19) of the statutes is created to read:

19           **348.27 (19) NO-FEE PERMITS FOR IMPLEMENTS OF HUSBANDRY AND AGRICULTURAL**  
20 **COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES THAT EXCEED LENGTH OR WEIGHT LIMITATIONS.** (a) In this  
21 subsection, “maintaining authority” means the following:

- 22           1. The department or its designee, with respect to state trunk highways.
- 23           2. The municipality or county responsible for maintenance of the highway or  
24 its designee, with respect to any highway that is not a state trunk highway, including  
25 any connecting highway.

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1           (b) 1. Subject to subd. 3. and par. (c), a person may apply to the maintaining  
2 authority of a highway for an annual or consecutive month, no-fee permit to operate  
3 an implement of husbandry or agricultural commercial motor vehicle that exceeds  
4 limitations on length or weight, or both, imposed by this chapter. Upon receiving an  
5 application for a no-fee permit under this subsection, the maintaining authority  
6 shall provide the applicant with a final decision on the application within 3 weeks  
7 of its receipt. If the maintaining authority fails to approve or deny the application  
8 within this period, the application is considered approved until the applicant  
9 receives a denial meeting the requirements under subd. 4.

10           2. Subject to subd. 3. and par. (c), any person to whom a no-fee permit has been  
11 issued under this subsection may, at any time, apply for an amendment to the permit  
12 to reflect a change in the applicant's circumstances or information, including a  
13 change in the listing or map of highways to be traveled. Upon receiving an  
14 application for amendment under this subdivision, the maintaining authority shall  
15 provide the applicant with a decision on the application within 5 business days of its  
16 receipt. If the maintaining authority fails to approve or deny the application within  
17 this period, the application is considered approved until the applicant receives a  
18 denial meeting the requirements under subd. 4.

19           3. Except as provided in subd. 5. b., an application under subd. 1. or 2. shall be  
20 made on the form prescribed by the department under par. (d) 1.

21           4. If a maintaining authority denies a permit application under subd. 1. or 2.,  
22 it shall notify the applicant in writing of the denial and the notice shall include a  
23 reasonable and structurally based explanation of the denial that relates to the  
24 preservation of the roadway. If the application is made with respect to an implement  
25 of husbandry described in s. 340.01 (24) (a) 1. b., any denial shall also include an

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1 approved alternate route or map of highways for operation of the implement of  
2 husbandry.

3 5. a. The governing body of a municipality may, by resolution or ordinance,  
4 authorize operation on any or all highways under the municipality's jurisdiction of  
5 implements of husbandry and agricultural commercial motor vehicles that exceed  
6 limitations on length or weight, or both, imposed by this chapter. A resolution or  
7 ordinance adopted under this subd. 5. a. is valid only for one calendar year and, to  
8 be valid in any succeeding calendar year, must be reaffirmed by the governing body  
9 of the municipality.

10 b. If a person applies for a no-fee permit to operate an implement of husbandry  
11 or agricultural commercial motor vehicle on a highway for which authorization is  
12 provided by resolution or ordinance under subd. 5. a., then subd. 3. and par. (c) 3. do  
13 not apply to the application and the maintaining authority may respond with a form  
14 letter and a copy of the resolution or ordinance, which shall serve as the approved  
15 permit under this subsection.

16 (c) 1. With respect to any highway under its jurisdiction, a maintaining  
17 authority may issue an annual or consecutive month, no-fee permit authorizing  
18 operation on the highway of an implement of husbandry or agricultural commercial  
19 motor vehicle that exceeds limitations on length or weight, or both, imposed by this  
20 chapter if the applicable requirements of this subsection are satisfied.

21 2. A no-fee permit issued under this subsection does not exempt any implement  
22 of husbandry or agricultural commercial motor vehicle from complying with all  
23 equipment and other requirements for an implement of husbandry or agricultural  
24 commercial motor vehicle specified in ch. 347.



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1           3. Except as provided in par. (b) 5. b., an application for a no-fee permit under  
2 this subsection shall be accompanied by a listing or map of the highways that may  
3 potentially be traveled under authorization of the permit.

4           4. A no-fee permit issued under this subsection is not valid on any highway that  
5 is a part of the national system of interstate and defense highways.

6           5. No fee may be charged for issuance or amendment of a permit under this  
7 subsection, or for any study, investigation, or other review in connection with an  
8 application for a permit or amendment of a permit under this subsection.

9           (d) 1. The department shall prescribe an application form for no-fee permits,  
10 and amendments to no-fee permits, under this subsection. Except with respect to  
11 permits under par. (b) 5. b., this form shall be used by each maintaining authority.  
12 The application form shall require the applicant to provide, on the form or as an  
13 attachment, all of the following information:

14           a. The applicant's contact information.

15           b. A listing or map of the highways that may potentially be traveled under  
16 authorization of the permit.

17           c. Identification of the types of implements of husbandry or agricultural  
18 commercial motor vehicles for which the application is made; the length, number of  
19 axles, make, model, and estimated weight of the implements of husbandry or  
20 agricultural commercial motor vehicles; and the time of year and frequency that  
21 these implements of husbandry or agricultural commercial motor vehicles are  
22 expected to be operated on the highway.

23           d. Changes to the original application when requesting an amendment to a  
24 previously issued no-fee permit.

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1 e. Any other information considered necessary by the department to determine  
2 the acceptability of the application.

3 2. The department shall prescribe a procedure for the submission of  
4 applications to the maintaining authority under par. (b) 1. and 2. The procedure  
5 shall allow an application to be submitted by mail, including certified mail, by  
6 electronic transmission, or in person, and shall include a method for accurately  
7 documenting the date of receipt of the application regardless of which delivery  
8 method is used.

9 (e) 1. In this paragraph, “adverse determination” means the denial of an  
10 application for issuance or amendment of a no-fee permit under this subsection.

11 2. Notwithstanding s. 348.25 (9), any person aggrieved by an adverse  
12 determination by a municipality or county may obtain review of the adverse  
13 determination in the manner provided in ch. 68 or as provided under an ordinance  
14 or resolution adopted under s. 68.16. However, review of the initial determination  
15 of the municipality or county, under s. 68.09 or 68.10 or under the equivalent  
16 provision of an ordinance or resolution adopted by a municipality under s. 68.16,  
17 shall be made by, respectively, the governing body of the municipality or the county  
18 highway committee of the county.

19 3. Any person aggrieved by an adverse determination by the department may  
20 petition as provided in s. 348.25 (9).

21 **SECTION 62. Nonstatutory provisions.**

22 (1) No later than the 30th day after the effective date of this subsection, the  
23 department of transportation shall prescribe the form and procedures specified in  
24 section 348.27 (19) (d) of the statutes, as created by this act. For purposes of this

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1 subsection, the form and procedures shall not be considered a rule under section  
2 227.01 (13) of the statutes.

3 (2) Notwithstanding section 348.27 (19) (b) 3. and (d) 1. of the statutes, as  
4 created by this act, applications under section 348.27 (19) (b) 1. and 2. of the statutes,  
5 as created by this act, are not required to be made on the form prescribed under  
6 section 348.27 (19) (d) 1. of the statutes, as created by this act, until January 1, 2015.

7 (3) Notwithstanding section 13.096 (2) of the statutes, the department of  
8 transportation shall not prepare a report on this bill under section 13.096 (2) and (3)  
9 of the statutes because the department recently completed the Implements of  
10 Husbandry Study, with a Phase II report dated July 31, 2013, and a Phase II  
11 addendum report dated September 20, 2013, which contained the same or similar  
12 information that would be contained in a report on this bill under section 13.096 (2)  
13 and (3) of the statutes.

14 **SECTION 63. Effective dates.** This act takes effect on the 30th day after the  
15 day of publication, except as follows:

16 (1) SECTION 62 (1) and (3) of this act takes effect on the day after publication.

17 (2) The treatment of sections 100.47 (2) (c), 346.05 (1) (g), 346.09 (1), 346.13 (1),  
18 (2), (3), and (4), 347.21 (1m) and (2), 347.22 (2), 347.24 (3), 347.245 (1) and (5), 347.25  
19 (2g), and 348.05 (2) (a) (by SECTION 27) of the statutes, the renumbering and  
20 amendment of section 348.05 (2g) of the statutes, and the creation of section 348.05  
21 (2g) (b) of the statutes take effect on the first day of the 19th month beginning after  
22 publication.

23 (3) The treatment of section 100.47 (4) (intro.) of the statutes, the renumbering  
24 of section 100.47 (3) of the statutes, and the creation of section 100.47 (3) (b) of the  
25 statutes take effect on the first day of the 3rd month beginning after publication.

