



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2013 Assembly Bill 154

**Assembly Substitute
Amendment 1**

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Under current law, the Department of Transportation (DOT) may issue annual, consecutive-month, or multiple-trip permits for vehicles that exceed statutory limits on size, weight, or load to transport loads near the Michigan-Wisconsin state line. These permits authorize:

- The transportation of loads over any class of highway for a distance not to exceed 11 miles from the Michigan-Wisconsin state line.
- The transportation of exclusively peeled or unpeeled forest products cut crosswise, wood chips, or forestry biomass anywhere upon U.S. Highway 2 in Iron County, Ashland County, and certain parts of Bayfield County if the vehicle is traveling between Wisconsin and Michigan and does not violate length or weight limitations established, as of April 28, 2004, under Michigan law.
- The transportation of exclusively peeled or unpeeled forest products cut crosswise, wood chips, or forestry biomass upon U.S. Highway 2 from State Highway 13 in the City of Ashland through Hart Lake Road in Bayfield County.

2013 Assembly Bill 154 allows a vehicle operating under a Wisconsin-Michigan border permit as provided in the second of the circumstances described above to also operate in Florence County.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 modifies Assembly Bill 154 in two respects. First, it directs DOT to not prepare the report that is ordinarily required when a bill establishes an exception to weight limitations, because current law already allows the same loads to be transported on other parts of U.S. Highway 2. The substitute amendment also removes the reference to April 28, 2004, so a vehicle may qualify for the exception so long as it does not violate whatever length or weight limitations are then in effect under Michigan law.

Legislative History

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 was offered by Representative Swearingen on April 23, 2013. On May 21, 2013, the Assembly Committee on Transportation unanimously recommended adoption of Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 and passage of Assembly Bill 154, as amended.

DM:jal