
AN ACT to amend 346.37 (1) (b) and 346.39 (2); and to create 346.37 (1) (e) of the statutes; relating to: flashing yellow arrow traffic control signals.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, vehicular traffic facing a yellow traffic control signal must stop before entering the intersection unless the stop cannot be made safely. However, vehicular traffic facing a flashing yellow traffic control signal may enter the intersection with caution.

This bill clarifies that vehicular traffic facing a flashing yellow arrow traffic control signal may enter the intersection without stopping after yielding to other traffic lawfully in the intersection.

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

SECTION 1. 346.37 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

346.37 (1) (b) Yellow. When Except as provided in par. (e) and s. 346.39 (2), when shown with or following the green, traffic facing a yellow signal shall stop before entering the intersection unless so close to it that a stop may not be made in safety.
SECTION 2. 346.37 (1) (e) of the statutes is created to read:

346.37 (1) (e) Flasing yellow arrow. 1. Vehicular traffic facing a flashing yellow arrow signal may cautiously enter the intersection to make the movement indicated by the arrow but shall yield the right−of−way to pedestrians, bicyclists, and riders of electric personal assistive mobility devices lawfully within a crosswalk and to other traffic lawfully using the intersection. Vehicular traffic facing a left turn arrow may make a U−turn unless a sign prohibits U−turns.

2. No pedestrian, bicyclist, or rider of an electric personal assistive mobility device facing such signal shall enter the roadway unless he or she can do so safely and without interfering with any vehicular traffic.

SECTION 3. 346.39 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

346.39 (2) Flasing yellow (caution signal). When Subject to s. 346.37 (1) (e), when a yellow lens is illuminated with rapid intermittent flashes, operators of vehicles may proceed through the intersection or past such signal only with caution.