



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2017 Wisconsin Act 294**  
[2017 Senate Bill 695]

**Distances Between Motor  
Vehicles**

Wisconsin law generally requires the operator of a motor truck with a gross weight of more than 10,000 pounds or of any motor vehicle which is drawing or towing another vehicle where the combined gross weight is more than 10,000 pounds to keep the vehicle he or she is operating to do both of the following:

- Keep the vehicle he or she is operating a distance of not less than 500 feet to the rear of any vehicle immediately preceding it, being driven in the same direction.
- Leave sufficient space so that an overtaking vehicle may enter and occupy the space without danger.

2017 Wisconsin Act 294 provides that these requirements do not apply to an operator of a vehicle in a “platoon,” other than the lead vehicle. Platoon is defined to mean “a group of individual motor vehicles traveling in a unified manner at electronically coordinated speeds.”

*Effective date:* April 18, 2018

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature’s Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.