

**STATE OF WISCONSIN  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

**PROPOSED ORDER AMENDING PERMANENT RULE**

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The Wisconsin Department of Transportation proposes an order to:

**Amend** ss. Trans 330.03, 330.07, 330.10 (3), (8), (30); and **repeal** s. Trans 330.05 (1).

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**INTRODUCTION**

The Statement of Scope for this Permanent Rule, SS 080-15, was approved by the Governor on August 24, 2015, published in Register No. 716B on August 31, 2015 and approved by Secretary of the State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation (Department) Mark Gottlieb, P.E., as required by s. 227.135 (2), Stats., on September 21, 2015. The State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation proposes an Order to amend permanent rule Wisconsin Administrative Code s. Trans 300 relating to motor bus equipment and inspection. The analysis below was prepared by the Department.

**ANALYSIS**

**Statutes Interpreted:** 49 CFR Part 393 (Parts and Accessories Necessary for Safe Operation) and Part 396 (Inspection, Repair, and Maintenance).

**Statutory Authority:** Sections 110.063 (1), 110.064 (1) (b), 110.075 (6), Wis. Stats.

**Explanation of Agency Authority:** Under s. 110.063, Wis. Stats., the department shall promulgate and enforce such rules as the department deems necessary in the interests of the safety of persons being transported to cover the design, construction, equipment, inspection and operation of motor buses.

**Related Statute or Rule:** None not already listed.

**Plain Language Analysis:** This rulemaking updates s. Trans 330, Wis. Adm. Code to meet the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSR). It also updates current rule language to meet the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) 2009 Audit Titled “Wisconsin MCSAP Review Summary Findings, Recommendations, and Noteworthy Practices Report” dated July 2009 (FMCSA Audit). The rulemaking updates equipment exceptions to a motor vehicle previously manufactured or equipped as a school bus, which has now been converted into a motor bus.

**Summary of, and Comparison with, Existing or Proposed Federal Statutes and Regulations:** The State’s Motor Bus Equipment and Inspection regulations contained in s. Trans 330 “Motor Bus Equipment and Inspection” are not compatible with the “Parts and Accessories Necessary for Safe Operation” requirements of 49 CFR Part 393 and the “Inspection, Repair, and Maintenance” in 49 CFR Part 396, as detailed below.

- Section Trans 330.03 specifies that the Parts of 49 CFR 393 adopted in s. Trans 330 are those that were in effect on October 1, 1990. This date will be removed from s. Trans 330.03.
- In s. Trans 330.05, the driver is required to do a pre-trip but not a post-trip inspection as required by 49 CFR 396. Section Trans 330.05 will be repealed.
- In s. Trans 330.10 (8), the provisions of 49 CFR 393.92 concerning Emergency Exits are adopted, but no longer exist in that section of the FMCSR. The reference to 49 CFR 393.92 in s. Trans 330.10 (8) will be repealed.
- In s. Trans 330.10, the brake requirements in 49 CFR 393.40 – 393.52 are adopted but not the antilock brake requirements as required in 49 CFR 393.55. The reference to 49 CFR 393.55 will be added to s. Trans 330.10 (3).

These proposed rule changes will make s. Trans 330 compatible with 49 CFR 393 and 49 CFR 396 and will be less restrictive than as currently written. The rule as proposed will also give a clearer understanding to industries who chose to use a converted school bus as a motor bus to transport passengers without jeopardizing any safety standards.

**Comparison with Rules in Adjacent States:**

**Illinois.** Have same rules currently being proposed by FMCSA Audit.

**Iowa.** Have same rules currently being proposed by FMCSA Audit.

**Michigan.** Have same rules currently being proposed by FMCSA Audit.

**Minnesota.** Have same rules currently being proposed by FMCSA Audit.

**Summary of the Factual Data and Analytical Methodologies:** The updates to s. Trans 330 reflect changes to federal motor carrier safety requirements in 49 CFR Part 393 related to safe operation of motor busses, in 49 CFR Part 396 related to inspection, repair and maintenance of motor buses, and the needed changes to Wisconsin's motor bus regulations required by the FMCSA Audit.

**Analysis Regarding Rule's Effect on Small Businesses:** This proposed rule will be less restrictive than as currently written. The rule as proposed will also give a clearer understanding to industries who chose to use a converted school bus as a motor bus to transport passengers without jeopardizing any safety standards.

**Effect on small business: None**

The agency contact person listed below is also the small business regulatory coordinator for this proposed rule. This proposed rule, fiscal estimate, and other related documents may be viewed at <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code>.

**Agency Contact Person:**

Lieutenant Karl Mittelstadt  
State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
Division of State Patrol  
4822 Madison Yards Way  
Madison, Wisconsin 53705  
Phone: 608-215-2804  
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**Place Where Comments Should Be Submitted and Deadline:** Comments may be submitted to the agency contact person listed above or through the Legislature's Administrative Rules website <http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code> until the deadline given in the forthcoming notice of public hearing.

## TEXT OF PERMANENT RULE

### **SECTION 1. Trans 330.03 is amended to read:**

Trans 330.03 **Federal regulations adopted.** The federal regulations in title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, part 393, parts and accessories necessary for safe operation, and part 571, motor vehicle safety standards, adopted by the United States department of transportation are adopted by the department and ~~in effect on October 1, 1990, that are specified in this chapter~~ shall be enforced in relation to a motor bus under this chapter as though the regulations were set out in full in this chapter.

### **SECTION 2. Trans 330.05 (1) is repealed.**

### **SECTION 3. Trans 330.07 is amended to read:**

Trans 330.07 **Converted school bus.** (1) If a motor bus originally manufactured or otherwise equipped as a school bus is converted to use as a motor bus as provided in s. 347.44 (4), Stats., and s. Trans 300.19, it shall comply with the equipment standards of this chapter, and the following equipment standards ~~instead of complying with the equipment standards under this chapter, that motor bus shall continue to comply with the equipment standards~~ for a school bus under s. Trans 300:

- (a) Construction in s. Trans 300.35 (1) to (4).
- (b) Emergency exits in s. Trans 300.39 (6) and (7).
- (c) Fuel tank and fuel system integrity in s. Trans 300.46.
- (d) Rub rails in s. Trans 300.58.
- (e) Service door in s. Trans 300.60 (4).
- (f) Windows in s. Trans 300.69 (3).
- (g) Wheelchair fasteners in s. Trans 300.77.

(2) The vehicle shall be inspected under this chapter for compliance with sub. (1).

### **SECTION 4. Trans 330.10 (3), (8), and (30) (intro) are amended to read:**

Trans 330.10 (3) BRAKES. Brakes shall conform to the requirements under 49 CFR 393.40 to 393.52~~5~~ and applicable standards under 49 CFR 571.105 and 571.121.

Trans 330.10 (8) EMERGENCY EXITS. Emergency exits shall conform to the requirements under 49 CFR 393.61, 393.62, ~~393.63 and 393.92~~ and the applicable standards under 49 CFR 571.217.

Trans 330.10 (30) (intro.) WINDOWS AND WINDSHIELDS. Windows and windshields shall conform to the applicable standards requirements under 49 CFR 393.60, 393.61, 393.62, ~~393.63~~ and 571.217 and to the following:

**SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This rule shall take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register as provided in s. 227.22 (2) (intro.), Stats.

**(END OF RULE TEXT)**

Signed this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2019.

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Craig Thompson  
Secretary  
State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation