



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2013 Wisconsin Act 216
[2013 Senate Bill 501]

**Oversize Loads of Baled Straw,
Cornstalks, or Stover**

Under current law, with exceptions, a person may not operate upon any highway, any vehicle, or combination of vehicles that exceeds certain statutory size limits unless a permit is obtained from the Department of Transportation (DOT) or local authority.

2013 Wisconsin Act 216 authorizes the DOT to issue permits allowing vehicles transporting loads of baled hay, straw, cornstalks, or stover to exceed the statutory height and weight limitations if the materials are to be used for animal bedding and the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection has determined that an agricultural emergency exists. "Stover" is defined as the leaves and stalks of field crops, such as corn, sorghum, or soybean that are commonly left in a field after harvesting the grain.

An agricultural emergency permit authorizes the operation of vehicles up to 14 feet 6 inches tall and 12 feet 5 inches wide rather than the generally applicable width limit of 8 feet 6 inches and height limit of 13 feet 6 inches.

Effective date: April 10, 2014.

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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>.