

---

# Wisconsin Legislative Council

## ACT MEMO

---



**Prepared by:** Ethan Lauer, Senior Staff Attorney

April 1, 2024

**2023 Wisconsin Act 167**  
[2023 Assembly Bill 869]

**Traffic Control Signal Priority  
Devices**

### BACKGROUND

State law allows an authorized emergency vehicle<sup>1</sup> to be equipped and operated with a lamp or other transmitter designed and used to alter the normal sequence of a traffic control signal to provide or maintain a green signal for the vehicle to proceed through the intersection (“traffic control signal preemption device”).

### 2023 WISCONSIN ACT 167

2023 Wisconsin Act 167 allows a snow removal vehicle to be equipped and operated with a lamp or other transmitter designed and used to request that a traffic control signal provide or maintain a green signal for the vehicle to proceed through the intersection (“traffic control signal priority device”).

In order to be so equipped and operated, the snow removal vehicle must be: (1) equipped with a snowplow or anti-icing equipment that is used by a political subdivision<sup>2</sup> for snow removal; (2) operated by a political subdivision or the agent or lessee of a political subdivision; (3) equipped with oscillating, rotating, or flashing lights; and (4) actively engaged in snow removal activities.

Under Act 167, the authority responsible for maintenance of a traffic control signal may establish procedures for resolving conflicts between multiple requests for signal preemption or signal priority at a traffic signal. A signal preemption request from an authorized emergency vehicle, however, must be given priority over any signal priority request from a snow removal vehicle.

**Effective date:** March 23, 2024

For a full history of the bill, visit the Legislature’s [bill history page](#).

EL:jal

---

<sup>1</sup> A police vehicle, a vehicle of a fire department or fire patrol, and certain ambulances.

<sup>2</sup> A county, city, village, or town.