

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2013 Senate Bill 588 Senate Amendment 1 Memo published: March 11, 2014 Contact: Chad Brown, Staff Attorney (266-0922)

2013 Senate Bill 588

Senate Bill 588 (the bill) creates limitations on the use of railroad crossings and railroad tracks in a crossing by pedestrians. Under the bill, a pedestrian may not enter or cross a railroad crossing when indicated not to do so by a traffic officer, railroad employee, or warning device, or when a crossing barrier is closed or being opened or closed. A pedestrian also may not enter or cross a railroad crossing at which a crossbuck sign is maintained while a train is occupying the crossing or closely approaching the crossing. In addition, a pedestrian may not cross through or around or climb over a railroad train or track equipment while that train or track equipment occupies a railroad crossing.

The bill imposes a forfeiture of not less than \$100 and not more than \$250 on pedestrians who violate these provisions, with penalties increased for additional violations in a three-year period to a minimum of \$225 and a maximum of \$700. The bill also raises the minimum and maximum penalties for railroad crossing violations committed by bicyclists and operators of personal mobility devices to \$100 and \$250 respectively for a first violation and \$225 and \$700 respectively for violations after the first violation in a three-year period.

The bill requires safety education with a written examination for violators of these provisions.

Senate Amendment 1

Senate Amendment 1 removes the safety education and examination requirement.

Bill History

Senator Petrowski introduced Senate Amendment 1 on February 25, 2014. On March 6, 2014, the Senate Committee on Transportation, Public Safety, and Veterans and Military Affairs voted to recommend adoption of Senate Amendment 1 and passage of the bill, as amended, by votes of Ayes, 5; Noes, 0.

CB:ksm