



JANEL BRANDTJEN

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 22ND ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Thank you Chairman Ripp and the entire Transportation Committee for allowing me to testify today on behalf of Assembly Bill 298.

One of goals we have set in Wisconsin is to streamline our Government, reduce red tape and make living under our laws as easy as possible. This bill is a small step in that direction.

Pavement markings play an important safety function on Wisconsin's highways. In addition to signs, pavement markings provide important information, delineation, guidance and warnings to drivers. Under current law, official markings upon a highway are referred to by the terms "mark", "marker", "marking", and "pavement marking". None of these terms, however, are currently defined in state statute. This bill will provide consistency in the language that is used in statute.

I know that this bill is not particularly controversial and therefore I'll simply end my testimony by asking for your support and will be glad to answer any questions that the committee may have.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janel Brandtjen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

State Representative Janel Brandtjen

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DATE: August 18, 2015

TO: Members, Assembly Committee on Transportation
The Honorable Keith Ripp, Chair

FROM: Tom Rhatican, Assistant Deputy Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Transportation

SUBJECT: Assembly Bill 298 (highway pavement markings)

Chairman Ripp and Committee Members:

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify in support of Wisconsin Assembly Bill 298 (AB 298). AB 298 will provide clarity and uniformity to existing state statutes pertaining to the use pavement markings on Wisconsin's roadways.

Pavement markings play an important safety function on Wisconsin's highways. In addition to signs, pavement markings provide important information, delineation, guidance and warnings to drivers. Under current law, official markings upon a highway are referred to by the terms "mark," "marker," "marking," and "pavement marking," but are not otherwise defined.

AB 298 aligns existing law related to pavement markings with the language referenced in the Federal Highway Administration's Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). Specifically, the bill replaces the various terms that currently refer to official markings upon a highway with the term, "pavement marking", and then defines it as "any material or device on the surface of a highway intended to regulate, warn, or guide highway users."

To ensure consistent application of pavement markings, the Federal Highway Administration's MUTCD establishes standards for their use on roadways, and are used nationally by state Departments of Transportation.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Nate Yahn, WisDOT legislative advisor, at (608) 266-1114.