



JERRY PETROWSKI

WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR

Senate Bill 321: Regulation of Intrastate Motor Carriers

October 28, 2015

Good morning, members of the committee, and thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today on Senate Bill 321, regarding the regulation of motor carriers operating in intrastate commerce. This bill was authored at the request of the Department of Transportation. Representatives from the department are available today should you have any questions.

Current law includes certain regulation of motor carriers engaged in interstate commerce. With limited exceptions, a “for-hire” motor carrier (vehicle transport of passengers or property for hire on the highway) engaged in interstate commerce is required to obtain a certificate of operating authority or license and to comply with certain insurance requirements.

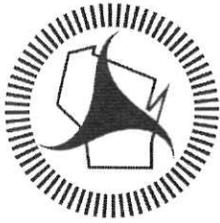
This bill extends the existing regulations that apply to for-hire motor carriers operating in interstate commerce to motor carriers also engaged in intrastate commerce. Specifically, the bill provides that the certificates and licenses required to operate as an interstate carrier are also required for intrastate carriers.

The bill allows the State Patrol to conduct motor carrier enforcement of intrastate motor carriers using the same set of procedures and standards currently used for interstate carriers and intrastate carriers involved with hazardous materials transportation, both of which are governed by federal rules. This change will enable the reasonable and effective enforcement of traffic safety on Wisconsin roadways, which creates a safer environment for the entire traveling public.

Thank you again for the opportunity to speak on this bill. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

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DATE: October 28, 2015

TO: Members, Senate Committee on Transportation and Veterans Affairs
The Honorable Jerry Petrowski, Chair

FROM: Nate Yahn, Legislative Advisor
Wisconsin Department of Transportation

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 321 (uniform enforcement of interstate and intrastate motor carriers)

Chairman Petrowski and Committee Members:

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify in support of Wisconsin Senate Bill 321 (SB 321). SB 321 applies certain provisions governing *interstate* motor carriers to motor carriers engaged in *intrastate* commerce.

Current law provides the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) with the authority to promulgate rules regulating the safety of interstate motor carrier operations, including rules implementing federal motor carrier safety standards. WisDOT's Division of State Patrol (DSP) enforces state traffic, criminal, and motor carrier laws; assists motorists in need; inspects certain vehicles for safety; and manages federal grants for highway safety programs.

With limited exceptions, a "for-hire" motor carrier (vehicle transport of passengers or property for hire on the highway) engaged in interstate commerce is required to obtain a certificate of operating authority or license and to comply with certain insurance requirements. SB 321 simply extends the existing regulations that apply to for-hire motor carriers operating in *interstate* commerce to motor carriers also engaged in *intrastate* commerce. Specifically, the bill provides that the certificates and licenses required to operate as an interstate carrier are also required for intrastate carriers.

The bill allows the Wisconsin State Patrol to conduct motor carrier enforcement of intrastate motor carriers using the same set of procedures and standards currently in place for interstate and intrastate carriers involved with hazardous materials transportation, both of which are governed by federal rules. This bill will enable the reasonable and effective enforcement of traffic safety on Wisconsin roadways – creating a safer environment for the entire traveling public.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (608) 266-1114.