

CHAPTER 205

AN ACT to amend 17.10 (2), 20.420 (83) (d), 86.31 (1) (e), 346.15, 346.18 (6), 349.08 (1) and (6) and 349.10 (1) (c); to repeal and recreate 348.02 (5); and to create 346.33 (1) (d) of the statutes, relating to removal of county highway commissioners; adjustment of certain highway allotments in the year following the taking of a federal census; plats submitted by towns, cities and villages to the state highway commission; operation of vehicles on divided highways; prohibited turns on highways; removal of disabled vehicles from highways; yield signs; U-turns signs; exceptions to weight, length and vehicles in combination in certain cases; the powers of local authorities; and the rule-making authority of the state highway commission.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 17.10 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

17.10 (2) County officers appointed by the county board, by that body, for cause. All such removals may be made by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the supervisors entitled to seats on such board. * * *

SECTION 2. 20.420 (83) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.420 (83) (d) When, in any year following the year in which the taking of a federal census is begun, the allotments pursuant to * * * s. 86.31 (1) * * * are not based on population figures from the official federal report issued by the director of census as his complete tabulation because such report was not available, the commission shall, when the report is available, review such allotments, and when not in accordance with the population figures as given in the report, compute the differences between the amounts that each municipality would have received pursuant to * * * *par. (b), sub. (84) (b)* and s. 86.31 (1) * * * on the basis of such report and the amounts they did receive. The amounts thus determined as underpayments and overpayments on the basis of such report shall respectively be deducted from and added to the amounts to be apportioned pursuant to * * * *pars. (a) and (b), 1, 2, 3 and 4* for the year in which the adjustment is made, in accordance with the gain or loss which was experienced in each such allotment in the previous year by reason of such underpayments and overpayments, and shall be respectively added to and deducted from the allotments for such year to be made to such municipalities under * * * *par. (b)*.

SECTION 3. 86.31 (1) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

86.31 (1) (e) The board of every town and village, and the council of every city, shall *annually not later than September 15, and in cities of the first class not later than December 15*, file with the commission and with the county clerk, a * * * *certified plat of * * * such towns, villages * * * or city showing * * * thereon the roads and streets and their mileage * * * to be open and used for travel as of the succeeding January 1, which may be used by the commission in making computations of highway aids and allotments*. In computing the mileage, the lengths included in road and street intersections shall not be included more than once. One-half of the mileage of roads or streets on boundary lines shall be considered as lying in each town, village or city.

SECTION 4. 346.15 of the statutes is amended to read:

346.15 Whenever any highway has been divided into 2 roadways by * * * an intervening unpaved or otherwise clearly indicated dividing space or by a physical barrier * * * so constructed as to substantially impede crossing by vehicular traffic, the operator of a vehicle shall drive only to the right of such * * * space * * * or barrier * * * and no operator of a vehicle shall drive over, across or within any such space or barrier except through an opening or at a cross-over or intersection established by * * * the authority in charge of the maintenance of the highway, except that the operator of a vehicle when making a left turn to or from a private driveway, alley or highway may drive across a paved dividing space or a physical barrier not so constructed as to impede crossing by vehicular traffic, unless such crossing is prohibited by signs erected by the authority in charge of the maintenance of the highway.

SECTION 5. 346.18 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

346.18 (6) The operator of a vehicle, when approaching any intersection at which has been installed a yield * * * sign, shall yield the right of way to other vehicles which have entered the intersection from an intersecting highway or which are approaching so closely on the intersecting highway as to constitute a hazard of collision and, if necessary, shall reduce speed or stop in order to so yield.

SECTION 6. 346.33 (1) (d) of the statutes is created to read:

346.33 (1) (d) At any place where signs prohibiting such turn have been erected by the authority in charge of the maintenance of the highway.

SECTION 7. 348.02 (5) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

348.02 (5) The limitations on weight, length and number of vehicles in combination imposed by this chapter shall not apply to a combination of vehicles in an emergency towing operation in which the towing vehicle is being used to remove a stalled or disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles from the highway to the nearest adequate place for repairs, or in which the towing vehicle is an emergency truck tractor temporarily substituted for a stalled or disabled truck tractor, provided that the limitation on the number of vehicles in combination imposed by s. 348.08 may be exceeded only if the vehicles comprising the towed combination of vehicles cannot reasonably be separated so as to be transported singly, and that the emergency towing operation of a combination of vehicles in excess of statutory limitations on weight, length and number of vehicles in combination is permitted on a freeway only from the place of stalling or disablement on the freeway to the nearest feasible interchange exit from the freeway.

SECTION 8. 349.08 (1) and (6) of the statutes are amended to read:

349.08 (1) The state highway commission shall adopt rules for the design and installation of stop * * * and yield * * * signs and for the design, installation and operation of traffic control signals where these signs and devices are permitted by statutes. In amending such rules, the state highway commission shall take into account the needs and conveniences of local authorities as well as the policy of the state to require uniform stop and yield signs and traffic control signals.

(6) The governing body of any city or village may by ordinance or resolution provide for the installation of yield * * * signs at any intersection over which it has exclusive jurisdiction, except when such intersection is part of a through highway. The design, installation and use of such signs shall be in accordance with the rules of the state highway commission.

SECTION 9. 349.10 (1) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

349.10 (1) (c) Where traffic conditions warrant, prohibit right or left turns at intersections or prohibit U-turns *by all vehicles or by certain types of vehicles.*

Approved July 11, 1961.
