
Wisconsin Legislative Council

ACT MEMO



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2023 Wisconsin Act 10 [2023 Senate Bill 76]

Carjacking

Prior law provided that whoever, while possessing a dangerous weapon and by the use of, or the threat of the use of, force or the weapon against another, intentionally takes any vehicle without the consent of the owner is guilty of a Class C felony. Under both prior and current law, a person who knows the owner does not consent to the driving or operation of a vehicle and intentionally accompanies as a passenger in the vehicle a person who violates this prohibition is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor. Also under both prior and current law, it is a Class E felony to intentionally take any vehicle without the consent of the owner by the use of force or the threat of use of force against another. These offenses are commonly known as “carjacking,” though the statutes did not use that term under prior law.

2023 Wisconsin Act 10 raises the penalty for the offense of intentionally taking a vehicle, while possessing a dangerous weapon, without the consent of the owner, by use or threat of force or use or threat of the weapon from a Class C felony to a Class B felony. It also reorganizes the offenses commonly referred to as “carjacking” into a new statutory section titled “carjacking.”

Effective date: May 12, 2023

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

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