

State of Wisconsin



2025 Assembly Bill 679

Date of enactment:
Date of publication*:

2025 WISCONSIN ACT

AN ACT to amend 348.25 (4) (intro.), 348.27 (1) and 348.295; to create 348.25 (8) (b) 4r. and 348.27 (21) of the statutes; relating to: weight limits for vehicles transporting grain, commercial feed, or bulk fertilizer.

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

SECTION 1. 348.25 (4) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

348.25 (4) (intro.) Except as provided under s. 348.26 (4), (6), or (7) or 348.27 (3), (3m), (4m), (9), (9m), (9r), (9t), (10), (12), (15), (16), (18), (19), ~~or (20)~~, or (21), permits shall be issued only for the transporting of a single article or vehicle which exceeds statutory size, weight or load limitations and which cannot reasonably be divided or reduced to comply with statutory size, weight or load limitations, except that:

SECTION 2. 348.25 (8) (b) 4r. of the statutes is created to read:

348.25 (8) (b) 4r. For a permit issued under s. 348.27 (21), \$325.

SECTION 3. 348.27 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

348.27 (1) APPLICATIONS. All applications for annual, consecutive month or multiple trip permits for the movement of oversize or overweight vehicles or loads shall be made to the officer or agency designated by this section as having authority to issue the particular permit desired for use of the particular highway in question. All applications under subs. (2) and (4) to (15) shall be made upon forms prescribed by the department. All applications under ~~sub.~~ subs. (16), (17), (18), and (21)

shall be made utilizing an electronic process prescribed by the department. ~~All applications under sub. (17) shall be made utilizing an electronic process prescribed by the department. All applications under sub. (18) shall be made utilizing an electronic process prescribed by the department.~~

SECTION 4. 348.27 (21) of the statutes is created to read:

348.27 (21) PERMITS FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF GRAIN, COMMERCIAL FEED, OR BULK FERTILIZER. (a) Subject to par. (b), the department may issue annual or consecutive month permits for the transportation of grain, as defined in s. 126.01 (13), commercial feed, as defined in s. 94.72 (1) (b), or bulk fertilizer, as defined in s. 94.64 (1) (b), in vehicles or vehicle combinations that have 6 or more axles and that exceed the maximum gross weight limitations under s. 348.15 (3) (c) but that do not exceed the maximum gross weight limitations under s. 348.295. Notwithstanding s. 348.15 (8), any axle of a vehicle or vehicle combination that does not impose on the highway at least 8 percent of the gross weight of the vehicle or vehicle combination may not be counted as an axle for the purposes of this paragraph. A permit issued under this subsection does not authorize the operation of any vehicle or vehicle combination at a maximum gross weight in excess of 91,000 pounds.

(b) Except as provided in par. (c), a permit under

* Section 991.11, WISCONSIN STATUTES: Effective date of acts. "Every act and every portion of an act enacted by the legislature over the governor's partial veto which does not expressly prescribe the time when it takes effect shall take effect on the day after its date of publication."

this subsection is valid only for the transportation of grain, as defined in s. 126.01 (13), commercial feed, as defined in s. 94.72 (1) (b), or bulk fertilizer, as defined in s. 94.64 (1) (b), on highways within the state trunk highway system to a rail yard, shipyard, port, ethanol plant, manufacturing facility, grain elevator, or feed mill and only on a route specified by the department.

(c) If the route desired to be used by an applicant for a permit under this subsection involves any highway other than those within the state trunk highway system, the application shall be accompanied by a written statement of route approval by the officer in charge of maintenance of the other highway. A person operating a vehicle under a permit under this subsection shall carry the written statement of route approval while operating on that route and shall display the statement upon request of any law enforcement officer or representative of the department.

(d) A permit under this subsection is not valid on any interstate highway designated under s. 84.29 (2) except to the extent allowed by federal law without any loss or reduction of federal aid or other sanction.

(e) The department may suspend a permit issued under this subsection during a spring thaw.

SECTION 5. 348.295 of the statutes is amended to read:

348.295 Weight limitations for certain permits.

Notwithstanding s. 348.15 (3) (c), for any vehicle or vehicle combination operating under a permit issued under s. 348.27 (18) or (21), the gross weight imposed on the highway by any group of 6 or more consecutive axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles may not exceed the maximum gross weights in the following table for each of the respective distances between axles and the respective numbers of axles of a group: [See Figure 348.295 following]

Figure 348.295:

Maximum gross weight in pounds on a group of—

Distances in feet between foremost and rearmost axles of a group	6 consecutive axles of any combination of vehicles having a total of 6 or more axles	7 consecutive axles of a 7-axle vehicle or of any vehicle or combination of vehicles having a total of 7 or more axles	8 consecutive axles of a 8-axle vehicle or of any vehicle or combination of vehicles having a total of 8 or more axles
28			82,000
29			82,500
30			83,000
31			83,500
32			84,500
33			85,000
34			85,500
35		80,500	86,000
36		81,000	86,500
37		81,500	87,000
38		82,000	87,500
39		82,500	88,500
40		83,500	89,000
41		84,000	89,500
42		84,500	90,000
43		85,000	<u>90,500</u>
44	80,500	85,500	<u>91,000</u>
45	81,000	86,000	
46	81,500	87,000	
47	82,000	87,500	
48	83,000	88,000	
49	83,500	88,500	
50	84,000	89,000	
51	84,500	89,500	
52	85,000	90,000	
53	86,000	<u>91,000</u>	
54	86,500		
55	87,000		
56	87,500		
57	88,000		
58	89,000		
59	89,500		
60	90,000		
<u>61</u>	<u>90,500</u>		
<u>62</u>	<u>91,000</u>		

SECTION 6. Nonstatutory provisions.

(1) Notwithstanding s. 13.096 (2), the department of transportation may not prepare a report on this bill under s. 13.096 (2) and (3).

SECTION 7. Effective date.

(1) This act takes effect on the first day of the 4th month beginning after publication.
