

State of Wisconsin



1995 Assembly Bill 91

Date of enactment: **August 9, 1995**
Date of publication*: **August 23, 1995**

1995 WISCONSIN ACT 31

AN ACT *to amend* 347.25 (1); and *to create* 347.25 (5) of the statutes; **relating to:** the use of red and white lights on privately owned motor vehicles being used by fire department personnel, volunteer fire fighters or rescue squad members and of flashing warning lamps on authorized emergency vehicles.

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

SECTION 1. 347.25 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

347.25 (1) Except as provided in subs. (1m) (a), (1r) and (1s), an authorized emergency vehicle may be equipped with one or more flashing, oscillating or rotating red lights, except that ambulances and fire department equipment, and privately owned motor vehicles under s. 340.01 (3) (d) or (dm) being used by personnel of a full-time or part-time fire department or by members of a volunteer fire department or rescue squad, may be equipped with red or red and white lights, and shall be so equipped when the operator thereof is exercising the privileges granted by s. 346.03. The lights shall be so designed and mounted as to be plainly visible and understandable from a distance of 500 feet both during normal sunlight and during hours of darkness. No operator of an authorized emergency vehicle may use the warning lights

except when responding to an emergency call or when in pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law, when responding to but not upon returning from a fire alarm or when necessarily parked ~~on a highway~~ in a position which is likely to be hazardous to traffic ~~using the highway~~.

SECTION 1m. 347.25 (5) of the statutes is created to read:

347.25 (5) Notwithstanding s. 347.26 (11), whenever flashing warning lamps on an authorized emergency vehicle are designed and being used to exhibit a directional arrow at the scene of an emergency, all such lamps exhibiting the directional arrow shall be flashing simultaneously. If the use of flashing warning lamps to exhibit a directional arrow would likely direct approaching traffic into a lane of traffic moving in the opposite direction, only the flashing warning lamps that exhibit the horizontal bar of a directional arrow may be used and such lamps shall be flashing simultaneously.

* Section 991.11, WISCONSIN STATUTES 1993-94: 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 as designated" by the secretary of state [the date of publication may not be more than 10 working days after the date of enactment].