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**WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
ACT MEMO**

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<b>2005 Wisconsin Act 38</b> [2005 Assembly Bill 18]	<b>Flashing or Rotating Amber Light on Certain Motor Trucks</b>
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2005 Wisconsin Act 38 relates to the use of a flashing or rotating amber light on certain motor trucks.

**CURRENT LAW**

Current law:

1. Generally prohibits any vehicle from displaying any flashing light. Specific exceptions permit flashing lights to be displayed on police vehicles, fire engines, ambulances, school buses, mail delivery vehicles, highway maintenance vehicles, and other vehicles.
2. Permits certain vehicles, including police vehicles and tow trucks, to display rotating lights. [s. 347.26, Stats.]

**2005 WISCONSIN ACT 38**

The Act specifies that:

1. In addition to any other lamps authorized under s. 347.26 (11), Stats., a motor truck having a gross vehicle weight rating of **more than 26,000 pounds** may be equipped with a **360-degree flashing or rotating amber light** mounted at the highest practicable point.
2. The flashing or rotating amber lamp under item 1. **may be lighted only when:** (a) the motor truck is upon a highway having a maximum speed limit of more than 35 miles per hour; **and** (b) the motor truck is traveling 10 or more miles per hour below the maximum speed limit, is stopped, or is backing up on the highway. The flashing or rotating amber lamp may not be lit at other times.

**Effective Date:** The Act takes effect on September 1, 2005.

**Prepared by:** Don Salm, Senior Staff Attorney

August 18, 2005

DLS:tlu:rv;jal;wu

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information,  
consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>.