WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
ACT MEMO

2011 Wisconsin Act 56 **[2011 Senate Bill 223]**	**Permits for Overweight Vehicles Transporting Agricultural Products**

2011 Wisconsin Act 56 authorizes the Department of Transportation (DOT) to issue overweight permits for vehicles transporting agricultural products, which the Act defines as any of the following or any combination of the following: fruit; vegetables; grain, including distillers' grain; and live livestock, feed for livestock, or nutritional supplements for livestock. "Agricultural product," under the Act, does not include liquid milk or liquid milk by-products, manure or animal waste, or raw forest products. These permits:

- May only be issued for the transportation of agricultural products to a farm or from a field or farm to a storage facility on the grower's land, a facility for initial storage that is not on the grower's land, or a facility for initial processing.

- May be issued regardless of whether the load can reasonably be divided to comply with the statutory weight limitations.

- May only be issued for routes involving highways other than those within the state trunk highway system if the application is accompanied by a written route approval by the officer in charge of maintenance of the other highway.

- May authorize varying weight limits depending on the number of axles and the distance between the foremost and rearmost axles, but may not authorize a load greater than 90,000 pounds.

- Are not valid on any interstate highway except to the extent allowed by federal law without any loss or reduction of federal aid or other sanction.

The Act requires that permit applications be submitted to DOT electronically. The cost of the permit is $300.

Effective date: June 1, 2012

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