



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2015 Wisconsin Act 232**  
[2015 Senate Bill 448]

**Agricultural Vehicles**

### **BACKGROUND**

With exceptions, no person may operate any vehicle or combination of vehicles that exceeds statutory size or weight limitations on a highway unless the person obtains a permit issued by the authority in charge of maintenance of the highway. 2013 Wisconsin Act 377 established a framework for regulating the operation, on highways, of vehicles used exclusively in the conduct of agricultural operations (agricultural vehicles) that exceed these size and weight limitations.

Greatly simplified, this framework provides agricultural vehicles with weight limitations that are approximately 15% higher than the weight limitations that apply to other vehicles, provides limited exceptions for agricultural vehicles from size and weight limitations under specified circumstances, and allows operators of agricultural vehicles to obtain “no fee” permits for agricultural vehicles that exceed statutory size and weight limitations. This framework was modified by 2015 Wisconsin Act 15, which made a number of changes to requirements related to various types of agricultural vehicles and the no fee permitting system.

### **2015 WISCONSIN ACT 232**

Wisconsin Act 232 makes a number of additional changes to the framework 2013 Wisconsin Act 377 established, and 2015 Wisconsin Act 15 modified, for regulating the operation of agricultural vehicles on highways. Very generally, these modifications include changes to:

- The permissible width of agricultural vehicles operated or transported on highways.
- Lighting and marking requirements for wide and slow-moving agricultural vehicles.

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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.wisconsin.gov>.

- Terminology used throughout the chapters of the Wisconsin statutes relevant to the operation of agricultural vehicles.
- The manner in which farm implement dealers must disclose axle and gross vehicle weight disclosures at the time of sale.
- Procedures for issuing a no fee permit for multiple identical agricultural vehicles.

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