



2025 ASSEMBLY BILL 179

April 15, 2025 - Introduced by Representatives B. JACOBSON, BEHNKE, CALLAHAN, DITTRICH, DONOVAN, GOEBEN, KNODL, MURSAU, O'CONNOR, PENTERMAN, PIWOWARCZYK and PRONSCHINSKE, cosponsored by Senators WANGGAARD, FEYEN and NASS. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

- 1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 347.25 (1m) (b) of the statutes; **relating to:** requirements for
2 lighting on police vehicles.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law provides that a police vehicle may be equipped with flashing, oscillating, or rotating blue and red lights. On a marked police vehicle, the blue light must be mounted on the passenger side of the vehicle and the red light must be mounted on the driver side of the vehicle.

This bill provides that, on a marked police vehicle with an exterior light bar, the blue light must be mounted on the roof of the passenger side of the vehicle and the red light must be mounted on the roof of the driver side of the vehicle. For lights mounted inside the vehicle, blue lights must be displayed on the interior of the passenger side of the vehicle and red lights must be displayed on the interior of the driver side of the vehicle. The bill also authorizes the use of a combination of blue and red lights mounted on the front, sides, or rear of a police vehicle if the vehicle is already equipped with roof or interior lights as required by the bill.

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

- 3 **SECTION 1.** 347.25 (1m) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

ASSEMBLY BILL 179**SECTION 1**

347.25 (1m) (b) If the vehicle is so equipped, the lights shall be illuminated as required under s. 346.03 or 346.215 (2) (a) when the operator of the police vehicle is exercising the privileges granted under s. 346.03 or 346.215 (2) (a). On a marked police vehicle with an exterior light bar, the blue light shall be mounted on the roof of the passenger side of the vehicle and the red light shall be mounted on the roof of the driver side of the vehicle. If lights are mounted inside the vehicle, blue lights shall be displayed on the interior of the passenger side of the vehicle and red lights shall be displayed on the interior of the driver side of the vehicle. On marked police vehicles with blue lights displayed on the passenger side roof or interior and red lights displayed on the driver side roof or interior, a combination of additional blue and red lights may be mounted on the front, sides, or rear of a police vehicle in any configuration. When in use on an unmarked police vehicle, the blue light shall be displayed on the passenger side of the vehicle and the red light shall be displayed on the driver side of the vehicle. The lights shall be designed and displayed so as to be plainly visible and understandable from a distance of 500 feet during normal sunlight and during hours of darkness. No operator of a police 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, when necessarily parked on a highway in a position which is likely to be hazardous to traffic using the highway, or as authorized under s. 346.215 (2) (a).

(END)