



# JERRY PETROWSKI

WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR

## **Senate Bill 239**

August 22, 2013

Thank you, members of the committee, for the opportunity to speak today on Senate Bill 239.

Under current law, a school bus must have a 360-degree flashing white strobe light and flashing red warning light equipped to serve as warning to other drivers when loading and unloading passengers. Federal requirements, which serve as the guidepost for all new school busses built today, have recently changed to allow for a 360-degree flashing white strobe light and either flashing red warning lights or flashing red and amber warning lights.

The result is that it is unlawful in Wisconsin to operate newly-built busses with the red and amber lighting package installed by the manufacturer. This bill harmonizes Wisconsin law with the federal law while retaining necessary safety procedures. It does not require anyone to retrofit older busses to meet current standards.

I would like to thank the committee members for the opportunity to speak on this topic, and would be happy to answer any questions at this time.

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