



State of Wisconsin
2021 - 2022 LEGISLATURE

LRB-3956/1
CMH:cjs

2021 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 47

June 14, 2021 - Introduced by Senator MARKLEIN, cosponsored by Representative KURTZ. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** proclaiming the week of June 20 through June 26, 2021, as
2 Lawnmower Safety Week throughout the state of Wisconsin.

3 Whereas, Lawnmower Safety Week was launched to raise awareness about the
4 need for increased education on how to be safe around lawnmowers and help avoid
5 serious cuts, burns, and amputations; and

6 Whereas, more than 16,000 children and teens are hurt each year because of
7 lawnmower injuries. Lawnmowers are the number one cause of amputation in
8 children. Every year, 15 children die from lawnmower injuries; and

9 Whereas, the energy of the rotating blade can send objects such as rocks or
10 sticks flying up to 200 m.p.h., endangering both the operator and others in the yard;
11 and

12 Whereas, to protect children from lawnmower related injuries, experts are
13 asking parents and caregivers to keep young children away from mowers and find
14 safer ways to involve them in yard work; and

1 Whereas, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and American Academy
2 of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) have a number of recommended safety guidelines:

3 ● Children less than 6 years old should never be in the yard when a
4 lawnmower is in use.

5 ● Children less than 12 years old should not operate lawnmowers.

6 ● Children should be at least 12 years old to use a push lawnmower and
7 at least 16 years old to operate a riding lawnmower.

8 ● No riders other than the operator should be allowed on a riding mower.

9 ○ Children can easily fall off a riding mower and be injured.

10 ○ Children who have been given a ride on a mower in the past may
11 run into the area unexpectedly and be run over by the mower.

12 ● Remove stones, toys, and sticks from the yard before mowing.

13 ● Operators should wear sturdy shoes and protective eyewear.

14 ● Operators should not be under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

15 ● Mowers should not be pulled backward, and mowing in reverse should
16 be avoided. If operating a riding mower in reverse, always look for children
17 behind the mower.

18 ● Caution should be used when mowing hills and slopes. Do not cut wet
19 grass.

20 ○ Push mowers should be used across slopes to avoid the mower
21 rolling over your feet if you slip.

22 ○ Riding mowers should be driven up and down slopes to avoid the
23 mower tipping over.

