

## LIGHTHOUSE LICENSE PLATES

**House Bill 5490**

**Sponsor: Rep. Pat Gagliardi**

**Committee: Transportation**

**Complete to 1-23-98**

### **A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5490 AS INTRODUCED 1-22-98**

House Bill 5490 would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to require the secretary of state to offer license plate applicants a Michigan lighthouse registration plate, instead of a standard motor vehicle license plate. Only public, Michigan-based lighthouses that are listed on the state and federal registry of historic sites would be eligible to appear on the plate. Under House Bill 5490, the plate design would be determined by the secretary of state after conducting a statewide contest.

Under the bill, those making application for the new registration plate bearing a Michigan lighthouse design would be required to follow the existing motor vehicle registration and re-registration procedures (as specified in section 257.217 and 257.226 of the code), except that a service fee would be added to the annual vehicle registration tax: \$25 for the original plate (\$3 for the first month and \$2 per month for each additional month during the registration period); and, a \$10 fee upon renewal. At registration, the secretary of state could issue a temporary permit for a period not to exceed 60 days, to be used until the lighthouse plate was available. At renewal, the secretary of state could issue an expiration tab.

House Bill 5490 would require that lighthouse registration plate service fees collected by the secretary of state be kept in a separate account, and on a quarterly basis transferred to the Michigan Lighthouse Restoration and Preservation Grant Fund. The secretary of state also would be required first to deduct the manufacturing and administrative costs, including the administrative costs associated with issuing, replacing, and substituting the specialty plates. The state treasurer would direct the investment of the lighthouse fund, and the fund would be administered by the State Historic Preservation Office within the Department of State, which would be required to develop guidelines for the issuance of grants from the fund.

MCL 257.811d and 257.811e

Analyst: J. Hunault

---

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.