

SENATE BILL No. 467

May 7, 2003, Introduced by Senators PRUSI, BARCIA and ALLEN and referred to the Committee on Transportation.

A bill to amend 1952 PA 214, entitled

"An act authorizing the Mackinac bridge authority to acquire a bridge connecting the upper and lower peninsulas of Michigan, including causeways, tunnels, roads and all useful related equipment and facilities, including park, parking, recreation, lighting and terminal facilities; extending the corporate existence of the authority; authorizing such authority to enjoy and carry out all powers incident to its corporate objects; authorizing the appropriation and use of state funds for the preliminary purposes of the authority; providing for the payment of the cost of such bridge and in that connection authorizing the authority to issue revenue bonds payable solely from the revenues of the bridge; granting the right of condemnation to the authority; granting the use of state land and property to the authority; making provisions for the payment and security of such bonds and granting certain rights and remedies to the holders thereof; authorizing banks and trust companies to perform certain acts in connection therewith; authorizing the imposition of tolls and charges; authorizing the authority to secure the consent of the United States government to the construction of the bridge and to secure approval of plans, specifications and location of same; authorizing employment of engineers irrespective of whether such engineers have been previously employed to make preliminary inspections or reports with respect to the bridge; authorizing the state highway department to operate and maintain such bridge or to contribute thereto and enter into leases and agreements in connection therewith; exempting such bonds and the property of the authority from taxation; prohibiting competing traffic

facilities; authorizing the operation of ferries by the authority; providing for the construction and use of certain buildings; and making an appropriation,"

by amending section 12 (MCL 254.322).

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 12. ~~No free use of such bridge shall be permitted,~~
2 ~~but~~ **Except as provided in this section,** all individuals or
3 vehicles using ~~such~~ **the** bridge shall pay ~~the~~ tolls and
4 charges established ~~for such use~~ by the authority. ~~This~~
5 ~~provision, however, shall not apply to the operating personnel or~~
6 ~~vehicles of the authority.~~ **The authority shall not charge tolls**
7 **or charges to its own personnel or vehicles. Beginning July 1,**
8 **2003, the authority shall not charge tolls or charges to**
9 **authorized emergency vehicles that are in the process of**
10 **responding to an emergency. As used in this section, "authorized**
11 **emergency vehicles" means that term as defined in section 2 of**
12 **the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.2.**