

Act No. 179
Public Acts of 2005
Approved by the Governor
October 20, 2005
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**STATE OF MICHIGAN
93RD LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2005**

Introduced by Reps. Anderson, LaJoy, Moore, Wenke, Nitz, Casperson, Gosselin, David Law, Pavlov, Clack, Plakas, Murphy, Hood, Byrnes, Gleason, Leland and Pearce

ENROLLED HOUSE BILL No. 4858

AN ACT to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled "An act to provide for the registration, titling, sale, transfer, and regulation of certain vehicles operated upon the public highways of this state or any other place open to the general public or generally accessible to motor vehicles and distressed vehicles; to provide for the licensing of dealers; to provide for the examination, licensing, and control of operators and chauffeurs; to provide for the giving of proof of financial responsibility and security by owners and operators of vehicles; to provide for the imposition, levy, and collection of specific taxes on vehicles, and the levy and collection of sales and use taxes, license fees, and permit fees; to provide for the regulation and use of streets and highways; to create certain funds; to provide penalties and sanctions for a violation of this act; to provide for civil liability of owners and operators of vehicles and service of process on residents and nonresidents; to provide for the levy of certain assessments; to provide for the enforcement of this act; to provide for the creation of and to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state and local agencies; to impose liability upon the state or local agencies; to provide appropriations for certain purposes; to repeal all other acts or parts of acts inconsistent with this act or contrary to this act; and to repeal certain parts of this act on a specific date," by amending sections 683, 723, 724, 806, and 819a (MCL 257.683, 257.723, 257.724, 257.806, and 257.819a), section 683 as amended by 2000 PA 97, section 723 as amended and section 819a as added by 2003 PA 152, section 724 as amended by 2004 PA 420, and section 806 as amended by 2005 PA 141, and by adding section 312g; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Sec. 312g. A person shall not transport or require, permit, or knowingly allow to be transported a hazardous material for which a placard is required under 49 CFR parts 100 to 199 in a commercial motor vehicle if the operator of the vehicle does not have a hazardous material endorsement on his or her operator's or chauffeur's license. A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 1 year or a fine of not more than \$500.00, or both.

Sec. 683. (1) A person shall not drive or move or the owner shall not cause or knowingly permit to be driven or moved on a highway a vehicle or combination of vehicles that is in such an unsafe condition as to endanger a person, or that does not contain those parts or is not at all times equipped with lamps and other equipment in proper condition and adjustment as required in sections 683 to 711, or that is equipped in a manner in violation of sections 683 to 711. A person shall not do an act forbidden or fail to perform an act required under sections 683 to 711.

(2) A police officer on reasonable grounds shown may stop a motor vehicle and inspect the motor vehicle, and if a defect in equipment is found, the officer may issue the driver a citation for a violation of a provision of sections 683 to 711.

(3) In order to be classified as a motor carrier enforcement officer, a police officer must have training equal to the minimum training requirements, including any annual training updates, established by the department of state police

for an officer of the motor carrier division of the department of state police. A police officer who has received training equal to these minimum training requirements before the effective date of this section is considered a motor carrier enforcement officer for purposes of this act.

(4) Sections 683 to 711 shall not prohibit the use of additional parts and accessories on a vehicle that are not inconsistent with those sections.

(5) The provisions of sections 683 to 711 with respect to equipment on vehicles shall not apply to implements of husbandry, road machinery, road rollers, or farm tractors, except as specifically provided in sections 683 to 711.

(6) Except as otherwise provided in section 698 or 707d, a person who violates a provision of sections 683 to 711 with respect to equipment on vehicles is responsible for a civil infraction.

Sec. 723. (1) All commercial vehicles with a single or combination gross weight rating or total gross weight of more than 5,000 pounds and all towing or platform bed wrecker road service vehicles in operation upon the public highways of this state shall have the name, city, and state or the registered logo or emblem of the registered owner of the vehicle, and lessee of the vehicle if the vehicle is being operated under lease, painted or permanently attached on each side of the vehicle in letters of not less than 3 inches in height, not lower than the bottom edge of the door. This information shall be in sharp color contrast to the background.

(2) Except for towing or platform bed wrecker road service vehicles, the identification requirements of subsection (1) may be met through the use of removable devices which meet the requirements of subsection (1). These devices shall be of durable construction and securely attached to each side of the motor truck or truck tractor. The removable devices shall be attached so that the identification is in a horizontal position.

(3) A vehicle in compliance with the identification requirements of the federal motor carrier safety regulations, 49 CFR parts 390-399, is considered to be in compliance with this section.

(4) This section does not apply to a truck eligible for and registered under a farm or manufacturer license plate, that has a gross vehicle weight of less than 10,000 pounds.

(5) A person who violates this section is responsible for a civil infraction.

Sec. 724. (1) A police officer, a peace officer, or an authorized agent of the state transportation department or a county road commission having reason to believe that the weight of a vehicle and load is unlawful may require the driver to stop and submit to a weighing of the vehicle by either portable or stationary scales approved and sealed by the department of agriculture as a legal weighing device and may require that the vehicle be driven to the nearest weigh station of the state transportation department for the purpose of allowing a police officer, peace officer, or agent of the state transportation department or county road commission to determine whether the vehicle is loaded in conformity with this chapter.

(2) When the officer or agent, upon weighing a vehicle and load, determines that the weight is unlawful, the officer or agent may require the driver to stop the vehicle in a suitable place and remain standing until that portion of the load is shifted or removed as necessary to reduce the gross axle load weight of the vehicle to the limit permitted under this chapter. All material unloaded as provided under this subsection shall be cared for by the owner or operator of the vehicle at the risk of the owner or operator. A judge or magistrate imposing a civil fine and costs under this section that are not paid in full immediately or for which a bond is not immediately posted in double the amount of the civil fine and costs shall order the driver or owner to move the vehicle at the driver's own risk to a place of safekeeping within the jurisdiction of the judge or magistrate, inform the judge or magistrate in writing of the place of safekeeping, and keep the vehicle until the fine and costs are paid or sufficient bond is furnished or until the judge or magistrate is satisfied that the fine and costs will be paid. The officer or agent who has determined, after weighing a vehicle and load, that the weight is unlawful, may require the driver to proceed to a judge or magistrate within the county. If the judge or magistrate is satisfied that the probable civil fine and costs will be paid by the owner or lessee, the judge or magistrate may allow the driver to proceed, after the load is made legal. If the judge or magistrate is not satisfied that the owner or lessee, after a notice and a right to be heard on the merits is given, will pay the amount of the probable civil fine and costs, the judge or magistrate may order the vehicle to be impounded until trial on the merits is completed under conditions set forth in this section for the impounding of vehicles after the civil fine and costs have been imposed. Removal of the vehicle, and forwarding, care, or preservation of the load shall be under the control of and at the risk of the owner or driver. Vehicles impounded shall be subject to a lien, subject to a prior valid bona fide lien of prior record, in the amount of the civil fine and costs and if the civil fine and costs are not paid within 90 days after the seizure, the judge or magistrate shall certify the unpaid judgment to the prosecuting attorney of the county in which the violation occurred, who shall proceed to enforce the lien by foreclosure sale in accordance with procedure authorized in the case of chattel mortgage foreclosures. When the duly authorized agent of the state transportation department or county road commission is performing duties under this chapter, the agent has all the powers conferred upon peace officers by the general laws of this state.

(3) Subject to subsection (4), an owner of a vehicle or a lessee of the vehicle of an owner-operator, or other person, who causes or allows a vehicle to be loaded and driven or moved on a highway, when the weight of that vehicle violates

section 722 is responsible for a civil infraction and shall pay a civil fine in an amount equal to 3 cents per pound for each pound of excess load over 1,000 pounds when the excess is 2,000 pounds or less; 6 cents per pound of excess load when the excess is over 2,000 pounds but not over 3,000 pounds; 9 cents per pound for each pound of excess load when the excess is over 3,000 pounds but not over 4,000 pounds; 12 cents per pound for each pound of excess load when the excess is over 4,000 pounds but not over 5,000 pounds; 15 cents per pound for each pound of excess load when the excess is over 5,000 pounds but not over 10,000 pounds; and 20 cents per pound for each pound of excess load when the excess is over 10,000 pounds.

(4) Beginning January 1, 2006, if the court determines that the motor vehicle or the combination of vehicles was operated in violation of this section, the court shall impose a fine as follows:

(a) If the court determines that the motor vehicle or the combination of vehicles was operated in such a manner that the gross weight of the vehicle or the combination of vehicles would not be lawful by a proper distribution of the load upon all the axles of the vehicle or the combination of vehicles, the court shall impose a fine for the violation according to the schedule provided for in subsection (3).

(b) If the court determines that the motor vehicle or the combination of vehicles would be lawful by a proper distribution of the load upon all of the axles of the vehicle or the combination of vehicles, but that 1 or more axles of the vehicle exceeded the maximum allowable axle weight by 4,000 pounds or less, the court shall impose a misload fine of \$200.00 per axle. Not more than 3 axles shall be used in calculating the fine to be imposed under this subdivision. This subdivision does not apply to a vehicle subject to the maximum loading provisions of section 722(11) or to a vehicle found to be in violation of a special permit issued under section 725.

(c) If the court determines that the motor vehicle or the combination of vehicles would be lawful by a proper distribution of the load upon all of the axles of the vehicle or the combination of vehicles, but that 1 or more axles of the vehicle exceeded the maximum allowable axle weight by more than 4,000 pounds, the court shall impose a fine for the violation according to the schedule provided in subsection (3).

(5) A driver or owner of a commercial vehicle with other vehicles or trailers in combination, a truck or truck tractor, a truck or truck tractor with other vehicles in combination, or any special mobile equipment who fails to stop at or bypasses any scales or weighing station is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(6) An agent or authorized representative of the state transportation department or a county road commission shall not stop a truck or vehicle in movement upon a road or highway within the state for any purpose, unless the agent or authorized representative is driving a duly marked vehicle, clearly showing and denoting the branch of government represented.

(7) A driver or owner of a vehicle who knowingly fails to stop when requested or ordered to do so and submit to a weighing by a police officer, a peace officer, or an authorized agent of the state transportation department, or a representative or agent of a county road commission, authorized to require the driver to stop and submit to a weighing of the vehicle and load by means of a portable scale, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than \$100.00, or both. A driver or person who dumps his or her load when ordered to submit to a weigh or who otherwise attempts to commit or commits an act to avoid a vehicle weigh is in violation of this section.

Sec. 806. (1) Until October 1, 2009, a fee of \$10.00 shall accompany each application for a certificate of title required by this act or for a duplicate of a certificate of title. An additional fee of \$5.00 shall accompany an application if the applicant requests that the application be given special expeditious treatment. A \$3.00 service fee shall be collected, in addition to the other fees collected under this subsection, for each title issued. The \$5.00 expeditious treatment fee collected on and after October 1, 2004 through September 30, 2006 shall be deposited into the transportation administration collection fund created under section 810b. The \$5.00 expeditious treatment fee collected on and after October 1, 2006 shall be deposited into the Michigan transportation fund established under section 10 of 1951 PA 51, MCL 247.660. The \$3.00 service fee shall be deposited into the transportation administration collection fund created under section 810b.

(2) A fee of \$10.00 shall accompany an application for a special identifying number as provided in section 230.

(3) In addition to paying the fees required by subsection (1), until December 31, 2007, each person who applies for a certificate of title, a salvage vehicle certificate of title, or a scrap certificate of title, under this act shall pay a tire disposal surcharge of \$1.50 for each certificate of title or duplicate of a certificate of title that person receives. The secretary of state shall deposit money received under this subsection into the scrap tire regulatory fund created in section 16908 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.16908.

Sec. 819a. (1) The traffic law enforcement and safety fund is created within the state treasury.

(2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments.

(3) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

(4) The director of the department of state police may transfer any amount in the fund to the trooper recruit school fund created under section 819b.

(5) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (4), the department of state police shall expend money from the fund, upon appropriation, only for 1 or more of the following purposes:

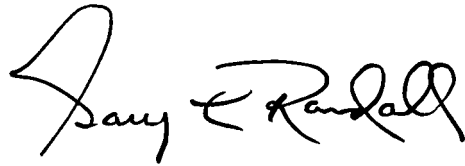
- (a) To enhance enforcement of traffic laws.
- (b) To enhance the ability to provide safety on the streets and highways of this state.

Enacting section 1. Sections 714a and 714b of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.714a and 257.714b, are repealed.

Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless all of the following bills of the 93rd Legislature are enacted into law:

- (a) House Bill No. 4852.
- (b) House Bill No. 4857.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.



Clerk of the House of Representatives



Secretary of the Senate

Approved

Governor