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Senate Bill 465 (Substitute S-2 as reported by the Committee of the Whole) *(Senate-passed version)*  
Sponsor: Senator Sam Singh  
Committee: Transportation and Infrastructure

### **CONTENT**

The bill would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to require the operator of a vehicle to maintain a distance of 200 feet from a snowplow. An operator of a vehicle who violated this provision would be responsible for a civil infraction.

This requirement would not apply when the operator of a vehicle was legally overtaking or passing a snowplow. Additionally, if a snowplow stopped at or in an intersection and the operator of a vehicle that was not a snowplow approached it from the rear, the operator of the vehicle would have to stop at least 20 feet from the snowplow and remain stopped until the snowplow resumed motion and vacated the intersection.

Proposed MCL 257.643b

### **BRIEF RATIONALE**

According to testimony before the Senate Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, worsening winter conditions have led to an increase in the number of traffic accidents between snow plows and personal vehicles. These accidents result from a variety of factors, including poor visibility and icy roads, which may make it difficult for a driver to brake in time to avoid a collision. Accordingly, some have suggested that a driver be required to maintain a certain distance from an active snowplow.

Legislative Analyst: Abby Schneider

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Due to the fine for the civil infraction, the bill would potentially increase revenue for the State and local governmental units.

Date Completed: 1-18-24

Fiscal Analyst: Bobby Canell