

Act No. 91
Public Acts of 1995
Approved by the Governor
June 20, 1995
Filed with the Secretary of State
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**STATE OF MICHIGAN
88TH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 1995**

Introduced by Reps. Rhead, Gustafson, Gnodtke, Hill and Green

Reps. Anthony, Bodem, Brewer, Byl, Crissman, Dalman, DeMars, Dolan, Fitzgerald, Freeman, Geiger, Gernaat, Gilmer, Goschka, Hammerstrom, Hood, Horton, Jellema, Jersevic, Johnson, Kukuk, Law, London, Lowe, McBryde, Middaugh, Middleton, Oxender, Pitoniak, Profit, Tesanovich, Varga, Vaughn, Voorhees, Weeks and Wetters named co-sponsors

ENROLLED HOUSE BILL No. 4773

AN ACT to amend section 705 of Act No. 300 of the Public Acts of 1949, entitled as amended "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 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," as amended by Act No. 357 of the Public Acts of 1988, being section 257.705 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Section 1. Section 705 of Act No. 300 of the Public Acts of 1949, as amended by Act No. 357 of the Public Acts of 1988, being section 257.705 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 705. (1) Brake equipment shall be required as follows:

(a) A motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle or moped, when operated upon a highway shall be equipped with brakes adequate to control the movement of and to stop and hold the vehicle, including 2 separate means of applying the brakes, each of which means shall be effective to apply the brakes to at least 2 wheels. If these 2 separate means of

applying the brakes are connected in any way, they shall be constructed in a way that failure of 1 part of the operating mechanism shall not leave the motor vehicle without brakes on at least 2 wheels.

(b) A motorcycle or moped when operated upon a highway shall be equipped with at least 2 brakes, 1 on the front wheel and 1 on the rear wheel, which may be operated by hand or foot.

(c) A trailer or semitrailer of a gross weight of 5,500 pounds or more when operated upon a highway shall be equipped with brakes operating on all wheels and designed to be applied by the driver of the towing motor vehicle from its cab.

(d) A new motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer sold in this state and operated upon the highways shall be equipped with brakes on all wheels, except a motorcycle or moped, and except that a semitrailer, pole trailer, or trailer of less than 3,000 pounds gross weight need not be equipped with brakes if the gross weight of a trailer or pole trailer, no part of the load of which rests upon the towing vehicle, does not exceed 40% of the gross weight of the towing vehicle, and if the gross weight of the towing vehicle and the gross weight of a semitrailer or pole trailer, part of the load of which rests upon the towing vehicle, does not exceed 40% of the gross weight of the towing vehicle when connected to the semitrailer or pole trailer. This subdivision shall not apply to a trailer or semitrailer owned by a farmer and used exclusively in connection with the farming operations of the farmer and not used for hire.

(e) Every bus, school bus, truck, or truck tractor shall be equipped with brakes operating on all wheels, except that a truck or truck tractor which has 3 or more axles need not have brakes on the front wheels if the vehicle was manufactured before July 25, 1980.

(f) In any combination of motor driven vehicles, means shall be provided for applying the rearmost trailer brakes, for a trailer equipped with brakes, in approximate synchronism with the brakes on the towing vehicle and developing the required braking effort on the rearmost wheels at the fastest rate; or means shall be provided for applying braking effort first on the rearmost trailer equipped with brakes; or both of the above means capable of being used alternatively may be employed.

(g) A motor vehicle and combination of vehicles, except pole trailers, motorcycles, and mopeds, shall be equipped with parking brakes adequate to hold the vehicle on any grade on which it is operated, under all conditions of loading on a surface free from snow, ice, or loose material. The parking brakes shall be capable of being applied in conformance with the foregoing requirements by the driver's muscular effort or by spring action or by equivalent means. Their operation may be assisted by the service brakes or other source of power if failure of the service brake actuation system or other power assisting mechanism will not prevent the parking brakes from being applied in conformance with the foregoing requirements. The parking brakes shall be designed in a manner that when once applied they shall remain applied with the required effectiveness despite exhaustion of any source of energy or leakage of any kind. The same brake drums, brake shoes, and lining assemblies, brake shoe anchors, and mechanical brake shoe actuation mechanism normally associated with the wheel brake assemblies may be used for both the service brakes and the parking brakes. If the means of applying the parking brakes and the service brakes are connected in any way, they shall be constructed in a manner that failure of 1 part shall not leave the vehicle without operative brakes.

(h) The brake shoes operating within or upon the drums of the vehicle wheels of a motor vehicle may be used for both service and hand operation.

(2) A motor vehicle or combination of motor-drawn vehicles shall be capable at all times and under all conditions of loading, of being stopped on a dry, smooth, level road free from loose material within the distances specified below, or shall be capable of being decelerated at a sustained rate corresponding to these distances upon initial application of the service (foot) brake.

	Feet to stop from 20 miles per hour	Deceleration in feet per second
Vehicles or combination of vehicles having brakes on all wheels	30	14
Vehicles or combination of vehicles not having brakes on all wheels	40	10.7

(3) Subsection (2) does not apply to a combination of motor-drawn vehicles under all of the following circumstances:

(a) The drawn vehicle is an implement of husbandry as defined in section 21.

(b) The motor vehicle hauling the implement of husbandry does not exceed a maximum speed of 25 miles per hour if the implement of husbandry being drawn is not equipped with brakes that meet the standards set forth in 49 C.F.R. 393.40 and this act.

(c) If the implement of husbandry being drawn does not exceed any other implement or component design maximum speed limitation, the combination of vehicles shall not exceed that maximum speed limitation.

(4) All brakes shall be maintained in good working order and shall be adjusted in a manner as to operate as equally as practicable with respect to the wheels on the opposite side of the vehicle.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Secretary of the Senate.

Approved -----

Governor.