

**SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 344**

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled  
"Michigan vehicle code,"  
by amending sections 216, 217i, 802, and 803a (MCL 257.216,  
257.217i, 257.802, and 257.803a), section 216 as amended by 2009 PA  
32, section 217i as added by 2018 PA 680, section 802 as amended by  
2016 PA 425, and section 803a as amended by 1996 PA 404.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1           Sec. 216. **(1)** Every motor vehicle, **including a military**  
2 **surplus vehicle**, recreational vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and  
3 pole trailer, when driven or moved on a street or highway, is  
4 subject to the registration and certificate of title provisions of  
5 this act except the following:

6           (a) A vehicle driven or moved on a street or highway in



1 conformance with the provisions of this act relating to  
2 manufacturers, transporters, dealers, or nonresidents.

3 (b) A vehicle that is driven or moved on a street or highway  
4 only for the purpose of crossing that street or highway from 1  
5 property to another.

6 (c) An implement of husbandry.

7 (d) Special mobile equipment. The secretary of state may issue  
8 a special registration to an individual, partnership, corporation,  
9 or association not licensed as a dealer that pays the required fee,  
10 to identify special mobile equipment that is driven or moved on a  
11 street or highway.

12 (e) A vehicle that is propelled exclusively by electric power  
13 obtained from overhead trolley wires though not operated on rails.

14 (f) Any vehicle subject to registration, but owned by the  
15 government of the United States.

16 (g) A certificate of title is not required for a trailer,  
17 semitrailer, or pole trailer that weighs less than 2,500 pounds.

18 (h) A vehicle driven or moved on a street or highway, by the  
19 most direct route, only for the purpose of securing a scale weight  
20 receipt from a weighmaster for purposes of section 801 or obtaining  
21 a vehicle inspection by a law enforcement agency before titling or  
22 registration of that vehicle.

23 (i) A certificate of title is not required for a vehicle owned  
24 by a manufacturer or dealer and held for sale or lease, even though  
25 incidentally moved on a street or highway or used for purposes of  
26 testing or demonstration.

27 (j) A bus or a school bus that is not self-propelled and is  
28 used exclusively as a construction shanty.

29 (k) A certificate of title is not required for a moped.



1 (l) For 3 days immediately following the date of a properly  
2 assigned title or signed lease agreement from any person other than  
3 a dealer, a registration is not required for a vehicle driven or  
4 moved on a street or highway for the sole purpose of transporting  
5 the vehicle by the most direct route from the place of purchase or  
6 lease to a place of storage if the driver has in his or her  
7 possession the assigned title showing the date of sale or a lease  
8 agreement showing the date of the lease.

9 (m) A certificate of registration is not required for a pickup  
10 camper, but a certificate of title is required.

11 (n) A new motor vehicle driven or moved on a street or highway  
12 only for the purpose of moving the vehicle from an accident site to  
13 a storage location if the vehicle was being transported on a  
14 railroad car or semitrailer that was involved in a disabling  
15 accident.

16 (o) A boat lift used for transporting vessels between a marina  
17 or a body of water and a place of inland storage.

18 **(2) A military surplus vehicle must not be precluded from**  
19 **applying for a certificate of title under this act or applying for**  
20 **or renewing a registration plate under this act if a form TR-54,**  
21 **vehicle number and equipment inspection, is completed by a police**  
22 **officer and verifies that the military surplus vehicle contains all**  
23 **of the following equipment:**

24 (a) Headlights. As used in this subdivision, "headlights"  
25 includes 1 headlight on each side, and high- and low-beam  
26 headlights.

27 (b) Front and rear turn signals.

28 (c) At least 1 taillight. If the vehicle is equipped with 2  
29 taillights, both taillights must be in working order.



1 (d) Registration plate light.

2 (e) Brake lights.

3 (f) Horn.

4 (g) Bright light indicator.

5 (h) Windshield wipers.

6 (i) Windshield washers.

7 (j) Brake equipment as required under section 705.

8 (k) Safety belts. This subdivision only applies to 1965 and  
9 newer model vehicles.

10 (l) Safety glass windshield. The windshield required under this  
11 subdivision must not be made of plexiglass, must be of a sufficient  
12 size to protect the driver of the vehicle and passengers, must be  
13 free of any cracks or obstructions, and must be made of a  
14 transparent material.

15 (m) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (n),  
16 adjustable outside rearview mirror on the driver's side.

17 (n) Outside rearview mirror on each side of the vehicle. This  
18 subdivision only applies to a truck with a half-ton or more  
19 capacity.

20 (o) Bumpers. This subdivision only applies to a passenger  
21 vehicle. The bumpers required under this subdivision must be  
22 between 14 and 22 inches above the ground when the vehicle is not  
23 in 4-wheel drive.

24 (p) Tires. The tires required by this subdivision must have  
25 2/32-inch tread, must not have exposed cord or tread separation,  
26 and must be approved for use by the United States Department of  
27 Transportation.

28 (q) Exhaust. The exhaust required by this subdivision must be  
29 in good working order and must not produce excessive noise. If the



1 original design of the exhaust included a tailpipe and resonator,  
2 the exhaust must include a tailpipe and resonator.

3 (r) Differential gear.

4 (3) Subsection (2) applies regardless of whether the military  
5 surplus vehicle is designated by the federal government as off-road  
6 use only.

7 Sec. 217i. (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this  
8 act, the secretary of state shall, upon an applicant's payment of  
9 the proper fees and submission of all documentation required by the  
10 secretary of state, issue a vehicle identification number in the  
11 same manner as provided in section 230 and a certificate of title  
12 to an assembled vehicle that satisfies all applicable requirements  
13 of this act, if **a form TR-54, vehicle number and equipment**  
14 **inspection, is completed by a police officer and verifies that** the  
15 assembled vehicle contains all of the following equipment:

16 (a) Headlights. As used in this subdivision, "headlights"  
17 includes 1 headlight on each side, and high- and low-beam  
18 headlights.

19 (b) Front and rear turn signals.

20 (c) At least 1 taillight. If the vehicle is equipped with 2  
21 taillights, both taillights ~~shall~~**must** be in working order.

22 (d) Registration plate light.

23 (e) Brake lights.

24 (f) Horn.

25 (g) Bright light indicator.

26 (h) Windshield wipers.

27 (i) Windshield washers.

28 (j) Brake equipment as required under section 705.

29 (k) Safety belts. This subdivision only applies to 1965 and



1 newer model vehicles.

2 (l) Safety glass windshield. The windshield required under this  
3 subdivision ~~shall~~**must** not be made of plexiglass, ~~shall~~**must** be of  
4 a sufficient size to protect the driver of the vehicle and  
5 passengers, ~~shall~~**must** be free of any cracks or obstructions, and  
6 ~~shall~~**must** be made of a transparent material.

7 (m) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (n),  
8 adjustable outside rearview mirror on the driver's side.

9 (n) Outside rearview mirror on each side of the vehicle. This  
10 subdivision only applies to a truck with a half-ton or more  
11 capacity.

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15 in 4-wheel drive.

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17 have 2/32-inch tread, ~~shall~~**must** not have exposed cord or tread  
18 separation, and ~~shall~~**must** be approved for use by the United States  
19 Department of Transportation.

20 (q) Exhaust. The exhaust required by this subdivision ~~shall~~  
21 **must** be in good working order and ~~shall~~**must** not produce excessive  
22 noise. If the original design of the exhaust included a tailpipe  
23 and resonator, the exhaust ~~shall~~**must** include a tailpipe and  
24 resonator.

25 (r) Differential gear.

26 (2) The department of state police shall conduct a safety  
27 study for the period beginning on January 1, 2019 and ending on  
28 December 31, 2020 of vehicles for which a vehicle identification  
29 number and certificate of title may be issued under this section.



1 The safety study ~~shall~~**must** include all of the following:

2 (a) The number of traffic crash fatalities occurring on public  
3 roadways that involved 1 or more of the vehicles described in this  
4 section.

5 (b) The number of serious injuries sustained in traffic  
6 crashes occurring on public roadways that involved 1 or more of the  
7 vehicles described in this section.

8 (c) Any other relevant safety data gathered during the period  
9 of the study.

10 (d) Any safety recommendations that the department of state  
11 police believes will help increase traffic safety for the vehicles  
12 described in this section.

13 (3) The study required under subsection (2) ~~shall~~**must** be  
14 filed with the governor, the senate majority leader, and the  
15 speaker of the house of representatives no later than April 1,  
16 2021.

17 (4) As used in this section and subject to subsection ~~(3)~~  
18 **(5)**, "assembled vehicle" means 1 or more of the following:

19 (a) A vehicle that is built from new or used materials or  
20 parts by a person not recognized as a manufacturer.

21 (b) A vehicle that has been altered or modified to the extent  
22 that it no longer reflects its original manufacturer configuration.

23 (c) A vehicle that has had its body replaced with a different  
24 style of body unit from another vehicle.

25 (d) A vehicle that has been assembled from a kit.

26 (e) An off-road vehicle, regardless of whether the original  
27 manufacturer's certificate of origin specifies that the vehicle is  
28 an off-road vehicle.

29 **(f) A military surplus vehicle, regardless of whether**



1 **designated by the federal government as off-road use only.**

2 (5) As used in this section, "assembled vehicle" does not  
3 include either of the following:

4 ~~(a) A military surplus vehicle designated by the federal  
5 government as off-road use only.~~

6 (a) ~~(b)~~ A gray market off-road minitruck.

7 (b) ~~(c)~~ An all-terrain vehicle that has 4 wheels and is  
8 equipped with a straddle seat.

9 Sec. 802. (1) For a special registration issued under section  
10 226(8), the registrant shall pay 1/2 the tax imposed under section  
11 801 and a service fee of \$10.00.

12 (2) For all commercial vehicles registered after August 31 for  
13 the period expiring the last day of February, the secretary of  
14 state shall collect a tax of 1/2 the rate otherwise imposed under  
15 this act. This subsection does not apply to vehicles registered by  
16 manufacturers or dealers under sections 244 to 247.

17 (3) For each special registration under section 226(9), the  
18 secretary of state shall collect a service fee of \$10.00.

19 (4) For temporary registration plates or markers under section  
20 226a(1), the secretary of state shall collect a service fee in an  
21 amount determined by the secretary of state to reflect the actual  
22 cost of administering the temporary registration plates and markers  
23 program, or in the amount of \$4.00 per plate or marker, whichever  
24 is less.

25 (5) For a temporary registration under section 226b, the fee  
26 shall be either of the following:

27 (a) For a 30-day temporary registration, 1/10 of the tax  
28 prescribed under section 801 or \$20.00, whichever is greater, and  
29 an additional \$10.00 service fee.





1 (b) For a 60-day temporary registration, 1/5 of the tax  
2 prescribed under section 801 or \$40.00, whichever is greater, and  
3 an additional \$10.00 service fee.

4 (6) For registration plates as provided for in section  
5 226a(5), (6), and (7), the secretary of state shall collect a  
6 service fee of \$40.00 for 2 registration plates and \$20.00 for each  
7 additional registration plate.

8 (7) For special registrations issued for special mobile  
9 equipment as provided in section ~~216(d)~~, **216(1)(d)**, the secretary  
10 of state shall collect a service fee of \$15.00 each for the first 3  
11 special registrations, and \$5.00 for each special registration  
12 issued in excess of the first 3.

13 (8) The secretary of state, upon request, may issue a  
14 registration valid for 3 months for use on a vehicle with an  
15 elected gross weight of 24,000 pounds or greater on the payment of  
16 1/4 the tax provided in section 801(1)(k) and a service fee of  
17 \$10.00.

18 (9) Upon application to the secretary of state, an owner of a  
19 truck, truck tractor, or road tractor that is used exclusively for  
20 the purpose of gratuitously transporting farm crops or livestock  
21 bedding between the field where produced and the place of storage,  
22 feed from on-farm storage to an on-farm feeding site, or  
23 fertilizer, seed, or spray material from the farm location to the  
24 field may obtain a special registration. The service fee for each  
25 special registration issued under this subsection is \$20.00. The  
26 special registration is valid for a period of up to 12 months and  
27 expires on December 31. As used in this subsection:

28 (a) "Feed" means hay or silage.

29 (b) "Livestock bedding" means straw, sawdust, or sand.



1 (10) The secretary of state, upon request, may issue a special  
 2 registration valid for 3 or more months for a road tractor, truck,  
 3 or truck tractor owned by a farmer, if the motor vehicle is used  
 4 exclusively in connection with the farmer's farming operations or  
 5 for the transportation of the farmer and the farmer's family and  
 6 not used for hire. The fee for the registration is 1/10 of the tax  
 7 provided in section 801(1)(c) times the number of months for which  
 8 the special registration is requested and, in addition, a service  
 9 fee of \$10.00. The secretary of state shall not issue a special  
 10 registration for a motor vehicle for which the tax under section  
 11 801(1)(c) would be less than \$50.00.

12 (11) The secretary of state, upon request, may issue a  
 13 registration valid for 3 months or more for use on a vehicle with  
 14 an elected gross weight of 24,000 pounds or greater. The fee for  
 15 the registration shall be 1/12 of the tax provided in section  
 16 801(1)(k), times the number of months for which the special  
 17 registration is requested and, in addition, a service fee of  
 18 \$10.00.

19 (12) The secretary of state shall deposit the service fees  
 20 collected under subsections (1), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9),  
 21 (10), and (11) in the transportation administration collection fund  
 22 created in section 810b through October 1, 2019.

23 Sec. 803a. (1) The secretary of state may issue to the owner  
 24 of ~~an~~a historic vehicle ~~an~~a historic vehicle registration plate  
 25 ~~which shall bear~~ **that bears** the inscription "historical vehicle -  
 26 Michigan" and the registration number.

27 (2) The owner of ~~an~~a historic vehicle applying for ~~an~~a  
 28 historic vehicle registration plate or a registration tab under  
 29 this section shall pay a fee of \$30.00, shall certify that the



1 vehicle for which the registration is requested is owned and  
2 operated solely as ~~an~~**a** historic vehicle, and shall certify that  
3 the vehicle has been inspected and found safe to operate on the  
4 highways of this state. The registration certificate need not  
5 specify the weight of the historic vehicle. The registration issued  
6 under this section is transferable to another historic vehicle upon  
7 completion of the application for transfer and payment of the fee  
8 in the manner described in section 809.

9 (3) A registration issued under this section ~~shall expire~~  
10 **expires** on April 15 in the tenth year following the date of  
11 issuance of the registration.

12 (4) The secretary of state may revoke a registration issued  
13 under this section, for cause shown and after a hearing, for  
14 failure of the applicant to comply with this section, for use of  
15 the vehicle for which the registration was issued for purposes  
16 other than those enumerated in section 20a **or 20b**, or because the  
17 vehicle is not safe to operate on the highways of this state.

18 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days  
19 after the date it is enacted into law.

20 Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect  
21 unless Senate Bill No. 345 of the 100th Legislature is enacted into  
22 law.

