

Legislative Analysis



EXEMPT WRECKERS FROM SPRING WEIGHT REDUCTIONS IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

Senate Bill 640 as passed by the Senate
Sponsor: Sen. Dale Zorn
House Committee: Transportation
Senate Committee: Transportation and Infrastructure
Revised 9-15-22

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 640 would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to exempt a **wrecker** that is towing a disabled vehicle, or that is traveling to or from the location of a disabled vehicle for the purpose of towing or servicing the disabled vehicle, from seasonal reductions in certain maximum axle weights and gross vehicle weight maximums under the code. (These reductions, often called ‘frost laws,’ are made to protect road surfaces in the spring when roadbeds can variably soften as winter ice thaws and refreezes and thaws.¹)

Wrecker means a truck with a hoist, towing apparatus, or self-loading flatbed, or any combination of these items, permanently affixed to the truck, used to transport up to two vehicles, but it does not include a motor vehicle equipped with a fifth wheel or a motor vehicle that tows the second vehicle on a trailer.

MCL 257.722

FISCAL IMPACT:

A fiscal analysis is in progress.

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

¹ See https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/michigan_counties_are_activating_annual_frost_laws_to_protect_roads