

SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 4535

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled
"Michigan vehicle code,"
by amending section 255 (MCL 257.255), as amended by 2003 PA 9.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 255. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, a
2 person shall not operate, nor shall an owner knowingly permit to be
3 operated, upon any highway, a vehicle required to be registered
4 under this act unless, ~~there~~ **NO LATER THAN 30 DAYS AFTER THE**
5 **VEHICLE IS REGISTERED OR THE VEHICLE'S REGISTRATION IS RENEWED, A**
6 **VALID REGISTRATION PLATE ISSUED FOR THE VEHICLE BY THE DEPARTMENT**
7 **FOR THE CURRENT REGISTRATION YEAR** is attached to and displayed on
8 the vehicle ~~, as required by this chapter. , a valid registration~~
9 ~~plate issued for the vehicle by the department for the current~~
10 ~~registration year.~~ **FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION, A PRINTED OR**

1 ELECTRONIC COPY OF A VALID REGISTRATION OR VERIFICATION OF A VALID
2 REGISTRATION THROUGH THE L.E.I.N. IS PROOF THAT THE VEHICLE IS
3 REGISTERED OR THAT THE VEHICLE'S REGISTRATION HAS BEEN RENEWED. A

4 registration plate ~~shall~~ **IS** not ~~be~~ required upon any wrecked or
5 disabled vehicle, or vehicle destined for repair or junking, which
6 is being transported or drawn upon a highway by a wrecker or a
7 registered motor vehicle.

8 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person who
9 violates subsection (1) is responsible for a civil infraction.

10 However, if the vehicle is a commercial vehicle which is required
11 to be registered according to the schedule of elected gross vehicle
12 weights under section 801(1)(k), the person is guilty of a
13 misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or
14 a fine of not more than \$500.00, or both.

15 (3) A person who operates a vehicle licensed under the
16 international registration plan and does not have a valid
17 registration due to nonpayment of the apportioned fee is guilty of
18 a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90
19 days, or by a fine of not more than \$100.00, or both. In addition,
20 a police officer may impound the vehicle until a valid registration
21 is obtained. If the vehicle is impounded, the towing and storage
22 costs of the vehicle, and the care or preservation of the load in
23 the vehicle ~~shall be~~ **ARE** the owner's responsibility. Vehicles
24 impounded ~~shall be~~ **ARE** subject to a lien in the amount of the
25 apportioned fee and any fine and costs incurred under this
26 subsection, subject to a valid lien of prior record. If the
27 apportioned fee, fine, and costs are not paid within 90 days after

1 impoundment, then following a hearing before the judge or
2 magistrate who imposed the fine and costs, the judge or magistrate
3 shall certify the unpaid judgment to the prosecuting attorney of
4 the county in which the violation occurred. The prosecuting
5 attorney shall enforce the lien by foreclosure sale in accordance
6 with the procedure authorized by law for chattel mortgage
7 foreclosures.

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