

**SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 5204**

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled  
"Michigan vehicle code,"  
by amending section 226 (MCL 257.226), as amended by 2020 PA 241.

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

1           Sec. 226. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (13)  
2 **or (14)**, a vehicle registration issued by the secretary of state  
3 expires on the owner's birthday, unless another expiration date is  
4 provided for under this act or unless the registration is for the  
5 following vehicles, in which case registration expires on the last  
6 day of February:

7           (a) A commercial vehicle except for a commercial vehicle  
8 issued a registration under the international registration plan or  
9 a pickup truck or van owned by an individual.



1 (b) Except for a trailer or semitrailer issued a registration  
2 under the international registration plan, a trailer or semitrailer  
3 owned by a business, corporation, or person other than an  
4 individual; or a pole trailer.

5 (2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (13) **or (14)**,  
6 the expiration date for a registration issued for a motorcycle is  
7 the motorcycle owner's birthday.

8 (3) The expiration date for a registration bearing the letters  
9 "SEN" or "REP" is February 1.

10 (4) In the case of a vehicle owned by a business, corporation,  
11 or an owner other than an individual, the secretary of state may  
12 assign or reassign the expiration date of the registration.

13 (5) The secretary of state shall do all of the following:

14 (a) After the October 1 immediately preceding the year  
15 designated on the registration, issue a registration upon  
16 application and payment of the proper fee for a commercial vehicle,  
17 other than a pickup or van owned by an individual; or a trailer  
18 owned by a business, corporation, or person other than an  
19 individual.

20 (b) Beginning 60 days before the expiration date assigned on  
21 an international registration plan registration plate, issue a  
22 registration under section 801g upon application and payment of the  
23 proper apportioned fee for a commercial vehicle engaged in  
24 interstate commerce.

25 (c) Beginning 45 days before the owner's birthday **or, if the**  
26 **owner has requested the expiration date described in subsection**  
27 **(14), 45 days before the expiration date**, and 120 days before the  
28 expiration date assigned by the secretary of state, issue a  
29 registration for a vehicle other than those designated in



1 subsection (1) (a) or (b). However, if an owner whose registration  
2 period begins 45 days before his or her birthday **or expiration date**  
3 will be out of the state during the 45 days immediately preceding  
4 expiration of a registration or for other good cause shown cannot  
5 apply for a renewal registration within the 45-day period,  
6 application for a renewal registration may be made not more than 6  
7 months before expiration.

8 (6) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection **and**  
9 **subsection (14)**, the secretary of state, upon application and  
10 payment of the proper fee, shall issue a registration for a vehicle  
11 or a motorcycle to a resident that expires on the owner's birthday  
12 **or, if applicable, on the expiration date described in subsection**  
13 **(14)**. If the owner's next birthday is at least 6 months but not  
14 more than 12 months in the future, the owner shall receive a  
15 registration valid until the owner's next birthday **or, if**  
16 **applicable, the expiration date described in subsection (14)**. If  
17 the owner's next birthday is less than 6 months in the future, the  
18 owner shall receive a registration valid until the owner's birthday  
19 following the owner's next birthday **or, if applicable, the**  
20 **expiration date described in subsection (14)**. The tax required  
21 under this act for a registration described in this subsection is  
22 either of the following:

23 (a) For an original registration, the tax must bear the same  
24 relationship to the tax required under section 801 for a 12-month  
25 registration as the length of the registration bears to 12 months.

26 (b) For a renewal of a registration, either of the following:

27 (i) For a registration that is for at least 6 months but not  
28 more than 12 months, the same amount as for 12 months.

29 (ii) For a renewal of a registration that is for more than 12



1 months, 2 times the amount for 12 months.

2 Partial months must be considered as whole months in the  
3 calculation of the required tax and in the determination of the  
4 length of time between the application for a registration and the  
5 owner's next birthday **or, if applicable, the expiration date**  
6 **described in subsection (14)**. The tax required for that  
7 registration must be rounded off to whole dollars as provided in  
8 section 801.

9 (7) A certificate of title remains valid until canceled by the  
10 secretary of state for cause or upon a transfer of an interest  
11 shown on the certificate of title.

12 (8) The secretary of state, upon request, shall issue special  
13 registration for commercial vehicles, valid for 6 months after the  
14 date of issue, if the full registration fee exceeds \$50.00, on the  
15 payment of 1/2 the full registration fee and a service charge as  
16 enumerated in section 802(1).

17 (9) The secretary of state may issue a special registration  
18 for each of the following:

19 (a) A new vehicle purchased or leased outside of this state  
20 and delivered in this state to the purchaser or lessee by the  
21 manufacturer of that vehicle for removal to a place outside of this  
22 state, if a certification is made that the vehicle will be  
23 primarily used, stored, and registered outside of this state and  
24 will not be returned to this state by the purchaser or lessee for  
25 use or storage.

26 (b) A vehicle purchased or leased in this state and delivered  
27 to the purchaser or lessee by a dealer or by the owner of the  
28 vehicle for removal to a place outside of this state, if a  
29 certification is made that the vehicle will be primarily used,



1 stored, and registered outside of this state and will not be  
2 returned to this state by the purchaser or lessee for use or  
3 storage.

4 (10) A special registration issued under subsection (9) is  
5 valid for not more than 30 days after the date of issuance, and a  
6 fee must be collected for each special registration as provided in  
7 section 802(3). The special registration may be in the form  
8 determined by the secretary of state. If a dealer makes a retail  
9 sale or lease of a vehicle to a purchaser or lessee who is  
10 qualified and eligible to obtain a special registration, the dealer  
11 shall apply for the special registration for the purchaser or  
12 lessee. If a person other than a dealer sells or leases a vehicle  
13 to a purchaser or lessee who is qualified and eligible to obtain a  
14 special registration, the purchaser or lessee shall appear in  
15 person, or by a person exercising the purchaser's or lessee's power  
16 of attorney, at an office of the secretary of state and furnish a  
17 certification that the person is the bona fide purchaser or lessee  
18 or that the person has granted the power of attorney, together with  
19 other forms required for the issuance of the special registration  
20 and provide the secretary of state with proof that the vehicle is  
21 covered by an automobile insurance policy issued under section 3101  
22 of the insurance code of 1956, 1956 PA 218, MCL 500.3101, or proof  
23 that the vehicle is covered by a policy of insurance issued by an  
24 insurer under section 3163 of the insurance code of 1956, 1956 PA  
25 218, MCL 500.3163. The certification required in this subsection  
26 must contain all of the following:

27 (a) The address of the purchaser or lessee.

28 (b) A statement that the vehicle is purchased or leased for  
29 registration outside of this state.



1 (c) A statement that the vehicle must be primarily used,  
2 stored, and registered outside of this state.

3 (d) The name of the jurisdiction in which the vehicle is to be  
4 registered.

5 (e) Other information requested by the secretary of state.

6 (11) In the case of a commercial vehicle, trailer, or  
7 semitrailer issued a registration under the international  
8 registration plan, the secretary of state in mutual agreement with  
9 the owner may assign or reassign the expiration date of the  
10 registration. However, the expiration date agreed to must be either  
11 March 31, June 30, September 30, or December 31 or beginning on  
12 February 19, 2019, the last day of a calendar month. Renewals  
13 expiring on or after June 30, 2020 must be for a minimum of at  
14 least 12 months if there is a change in the established expiration  
15 date. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, a  
16 commercial vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer registration issued  
17 under this subsection that expires on or after March 1, 2020 is  
18 valid until December 11, 2020.

19 (12) The expiration date for a multiyear registration issued  
20 for a leased vehicle must be the date the lease expires but must  
21 not be for a period longer than 24 months.

22 (13) A vehicle registration described in subsection (1) or a  
23 motorcycle registration described in subsection (2) that expires on  
24 or after March 1, 2020 is valid until December 11, 2020.

25 **(14) In the case of a vehicle owned by an individual, upon**  
26 **request of that individual, a vehicle registration issued by the**  
27 **secretary of state expires 2 years after the owner's birthday.**

28 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect October  
29 1, 2021.



1           Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect  
2 unless House Bill No. 5205 of the 100th Legislature is enacted into  
3 law.

