



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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TEMPORARY BOAT TRAILER REGISTRATION

House Bill 4693 as introduced
First Analysis (5-4-89)

MAY 22 1989

Mich. State Law Library

Sponsor: Rep. Bart Stupak
Committee: Marine Affairs & Port Development

H.B. 4693 (5-4-89)

THE APPARENT PROBLEM:

Public Act 56 of 1988 included provisions for a 15-day temporary permit for certain new boats. The provision was included to allow new boat owners to use their boats upon purchase just as new car owners are allowed to use their cars upon purchase through a temporary dealer's registration until the permanent registration process is completed through the secretary of state's office. However, many new boats require a trailer to transport the boat to the water. Currently, there are provisions for boat dealers who sell trailers weighing more than 2,500 pounds to issue temporary registrations, but there are no provisions for the issuance of temporary registrations for trailers weighing less than 2,500 pounds.

THE CONTENT OF THE BILL:

Under the Michigan Vehicle Code, dealers of vehicles required to be titled are required to apply for a new title within fifteen days after delivering a vehicle to a purchaser and are required to transfer or secure registration plates and a certificate of registration for the vehicle in the name of the purchaser. The bill would amend the code to include under the requirement persons engaged in the sale of vessels required to be numbered by the Marine Safety Act who were delivering boat trailers weighing less than 2,500 pounds to a purchaser. The bill would also allow these persons to be issued temporary registration plates or markers for use by purchasers of boat trailers weighing less than 2,500 pounds. The bill would require the secretary of state's office to designate the form to be used in the case of temporary registration plates or markers used for boat trailers.

MCL 257.217 and 257.226a

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

According to the Department of State, the bill would have negligible fiscal implications for the state. (5-3-89)

ARGUMENTS:

For:

When a person buys a car from an automobile dealer, he or she can drive it immediately upon purchase. However, persons who purchase boats on the weekends or after secretary of state's offices close during the week cannot use their boats upon purchase if the boat must be transported on a trailer weighing less than 2,500 pounds. The bill will address this situation by providing for temporary registrations to enable all new boat owners to use their boats upon purchase just as new car owners are able to use their cars upon purchase.

POSITIONS:

The Department of State supports the bill. (5-3-89)

The Michigan Boating Industries Association supports the bill. (5-3-89)