

# HOUSE BILL No. 4864

May 23, 1991, Introduced by Reps. Middaugh, Bartnik, Hoffman, DeLange, Dalman, Hoekman, Muxlow, Ouwinga, Ostling, Olshove and Hertel and referred to the Committee on Transportation.

A bill to amend section 710c of Act No. 300 of the Public Acts of 1949, entitled as amended

"Michigan vehicle code,"

as amended by Act No. 19 of the Public Acts of 1987, being section 257.710c of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1       Section 1. Section 710c of Act No. 300 of the Public Acts  
2 of 1949, as amended by Act No. 19 of the Public Acts of 1987,  
3 being section 257.710c of the Michigan Compiled Laws, is amended  
4 to read as follows:

5       Sec. 710c. (1) A person shall not operate a ~~passenger~~  
6 MOTOR vehicle on a public highway or street of this state unless  
7 the vehicle is equipped with a bumper or other energy absorption  
8 system with an analogous function WHICH BUMPER OR SYSTEM IS

1 SECURELY BOLTED OR PERMANENTLY ATTACHED ON BOTH THE FRONT AND  
2 REAR OF THE VEHICLE.

3 ~~-(2) A person shall not operate upon a public highway or~~  
4 ~~street of this state a passenger vehicle which has a frame height~~  
5 ~~or body floor height greater than 23 inches or modify a passenger~~  
6 ~~vehicle so that the frame height or body floor height is greater~~  
7 ~~than 23 inches. The suspension system of a passenger vehicle~~  
8 ~~shall not be modified to defeat safe operation of the system.~~

9 (2) ~~-(3) Except as provided in subsection (2) for a passen-~~  
10 ~~ger vehicle, a~~ A person shall not operate a motor vehicle ~~with~~  
11 ~~a frame height or body floor height which~~ OF A TYPE DEFINED IN  
12 SUBSECTION (6) THAT exceeds EITHER OF the following limits: ~~-or~~  
13 ~~on which the body floor as measured at the midpoint between the~~  
14 ~~front axle and the second axle on the vehicle is more than 4~~  
15 ~~inches above the top of the frame.~~

16	<u>Vehicle type</u>	<u>Frame Height</u>	<u>BUMPER HEIGHT</u>
17	PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE...	14 INCHES	22 INCHES
18	OTHER MOTOR VEHICLE:		
19	<del>Up to 4,500</del> LESS THAN		
20	4,501 pounds GVWR.....	<del>27</del> 24 inches	28 INCHES
21	4,501 to <del>10,000</del> 7,500		
22	pounds GVWR.....	<del>30</del> 24 inches	28 INCHES
23	7,501 TO 10,000 POUNDS		
24	GVWR.....	26 INCHES	30 INCHES

25 ~~-(4) As used in this section:~~

26 ~~(a) "Frame" means the main longitudinal structural members~~  
27 ~~of the chassis of the vehicle or, for a vehicle with unitized~~  
28 ~~body construction, the lowest main longitudinal structural~~  
29 ~~members of the body of the vehicle.~~

1       ~~(b) "Frame height" means the vertical distance between the~~  
2 ~~ground and the lowest point on the frame, measured when the vehi-~~  
3 ~~cle is unladen on a level surface at the lowest point on the~~  
4 ~~frame midway between the front axle and the second axle on the~~  
5 ~~vehicle.~~

6       ~~(c) "GVWR" means the manufacturer's gross vehicle weight~~  
7 ~~rating, as defined in section 707a, whether or not the vehicle is~~  
8 ~~modified by use of parts not originally installed by the~~  
9 ~~manufacturer.~~

10       (3) IF THE GVWR CANNOT BE DETERMINED ON A MOTOR VEHICLE  
11 OTHER THAN A PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE, THE LIMITATIONS FOR A MOTOR  
12 VEHICLE HAVING LESS THAN 4,501 POUNDS GVWR SHALL APPLY.

13       (4) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (2), A PERSON SHALL NOT OPER-  
14 ATE A MOTOR VEHICLE HAVING LIFT BLOCKS BETWEEN THE FRONT AXLE AND  
15 SPRINGS, OR WITH LIFT BLOCKS THAT EXCEED 4 INCHES IN HEIGHT  
16 BETWEEN THE REAR AXLE AND SPRINGS IN ADDITION TO THOSE PROVIDED  
17 BY THE ORIGINAL MANUFACTURER. ANY BODY LIFT OR SUSPENSION LIFT  
18 BLOCK SHALL BE OF SINGLE PIECE CONSTRUCTION, AND SHALL NOT USE  
19 MORE THAN A 3-INCH SPACER. SPRING SHACKLE REPLACEMENTS SHALL NOT  
20 EXCEED THE ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURE LENGTH BY MORE THAN  
21 1-1/2 INCHES, AND COIL SPRING SPACERS ARE PROHIBITED. TIRES  
22 LARGER THAN 38 INCHES IN ACTUAL DIAMETER ARE PROHIBITED. ALL  
23 STEERING COMPONENTS SHALL BE GEOMETRICALLY ARRANGED TO FUNCTION  
24 AS ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURE. WELDED PITMAN ARMS, DRAG  
25 LINKS, AND TIE RODS ARE PROHIBITED. ALL PARTS USED TO MODIFY THE  
26 ORIGINAL SUSPENSION OR HEIGHT OF A MOTOR VEHICLE SHALL BE FACTORY

1 MANUFACTURED AND SHALL MEET OR EXCEED THE ORIGINAL MANUFACTURER'S  
2 SPECIFICATIONS.

3 (5) A ~~vehicle~~ PERSON shall not ~~be modified to~~ MODIFY A  
4 VEHICLE TO BE IN VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION, ALTER OR ADD TO AN  
5 ORIGINAL FRAME RESULTING IN AN INCREASE IN HEIGHT OF THE VEHICLE,  
6 OR cause the vehicle body or chassis to come in contact with the  
7 ground, expose the fuel tank to damage from collision, or cause  
8 the wheels to come in contact with the body. ~~under normal~~  
9 ~~operation.~~ A part of the original suspension system shall not be  
10 disconnected OR MODIFIED to defeat the safe operation of the sus-  
11 pension system. This section does not prohibit the installation  
12 of heavy duty equipment ~~to include~~ INCLUDING BUMPERS, shock  
13 absorbers, and overload springs ~~or prohibit a person from oper-~~  
14 ~~ating a motor vehicle on a public highway with normal wear of the~~  
15 ~~suspension system if the normal wear does not affect the control~~  
16 ~~of the vehicle~~ WITHIN THE LIMITATIONS OF THIS SECTION, OR THE  
17 REMOVAL OF A BUMPER WHEN NECESSARY TO INSTALL A SNOWPLOW, LIFT  
18 RAMP, ROLL PAN, OR SIMILAR DEVICE WHILE THE DEVICE IS IN PLACE  
19 AND OPERATIONAL.

20 (6) This section shall not be construed to establish stan-  
21 dards stricter than those formulated by the United States depart-  
22 ment of transportation for bumpers on a passenger motor vehicle  
23 sold within the United States.

24 ~~(7) For purposes of this section "passenger vehicle" means~~  
25 ~~a vehicle displaying registration plates issued pursuant to sec-~~  
26 ~~tion 801(1)(a) or (q), except a motor home or a multipurpose~~  
27 ~~passenger vehicle designed to carry 10 passengers or less and~~

~~1 constructed either on a truck chassis or with special features~~  
~~2 for occasional off road operation.~~

3 (7) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A VEHICLE HAVING A  
4 MANUFACTURER'S DESIGN WHICH INTRINSICALLY PRECLUDES CONFORMANCE  
5 WITH THIS SECTION, A VEHICLE DESIGNED TO CARRY 16 OR MORE PASSEN-  
6 GERS INCLUDING THE DRIVER, OR A VEHICLE WHICH HAS AN UNALTERED  
7 BUMPER OR SUSPENSION SYSTEM AS SUPPLIED BY THE MANUFACTURER. IF  
8 A PERSON IS CHARGED WITH OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE IN VIOLATION  
9 OF THIS SECTION, A REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION OF A VIOLATION OF THIS  
10 SECTION IS CREATED REGARDING ORIGINAL MANUFACTURER'S  
11 SPECIFICATIONS.

12 (8) AS USED IN THIS SECTION:

13 (A) "BUMPER HEIGHT" MEANS THE VERTICAL DISTANCE BETWEEN THE  
14 LOWEST POINT ON THE BUMPER, AND THE GROUND AS MEASURED TO A LEVEL  
15 SURFACE WHEN THE VEHICLE IS UNLADEN WITH THE VEHICLE TIRES  
16 INFLATED TO THE MANUFACTURER'S RECOMMENDED PRESSURE.

17 (B) "FRAME" MEANS THE MAIN LONGITUDINAL STRUCTURAL MEMBERS  
18 OF THE CHASSIS OF THE VEHICLE AS EQUIPPED FROM THE FACTORY OR,  
19 FOR A VEHICLE WITH UNITIZED BODY CONSTRUCTION, THE LOWEST MAIN  
20 LONGITUDINAL STRUCTURAL MEMBERS OF THE BODY OF THE VEHICLE.

21 (C) "FRAME HEIGHT" MEANS THE VERTICAL DISTANCE BETWEEN THE  
22 GROUND AND THE LOWEST POINT ON THE FRAME, MEASURED WHEN THE VEHI-  
23 CLE IS UNLADEN ON A LEVEL SURFACE WITH THE VEHICLE TIRES INFLATED  
24 TO THE MANUFACTURER'S RECOMMENDED PRESSURE.

25 (D) "GVWR" MEANS THE ORIGINAL MANUFACTURER'S GROSS VEHICLE  
26 WEIGHT RATING AS DEFINED IN SECTION 18B.

1 (E) "MULTIPURPOSE PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE" MEANS A MOTOR  
2 VEHICLE, OTHER THAN A TRUCK OR PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE, DESIGNED  
3 TO CARRY 10 PASSENGERS OR LESS AND CONSTRUCTED EITHER ON A TRUCK  
4 CHASSIS OR WITH SPECIAL FEATURES FOR OCCASIONAL OFF-ROAD  
5 OPERATION.

6 (F) "OTHER MOTOR VEHICLE" MEANS ANY TRUCK, VAN, MULTIPURPOSE  
7 PASSENGER VEHICLE, OR OTHER MOTOR VEHICLE HAVING A GVWR OF 10,000  
8 POUNDS OR LESS, NOT INCLUDING A PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE  
9 MOTORCYCLE.

10 (G) "PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE" MEANS A MOTOR VEHICLE WITH  
11 MOTIVE POWER DESIGNED TO CARRY 10 PASSENGERS OR LESS, EXCEPT A  
12 MULTIPURPOSE PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE, MOTORCYCLE, OR TRUCK.