

Act No. 129
Public Acts of 1995
Approved by the Governor
June 30, 1995
Filed with the Secretary of State
June 30, 1995

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
88TH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 1995**

Introduced by Reps. Fitzgerald, Dalman, Alley, Martinez, McBryde, DeLange, Hammerstrom, Hill, Bobier, Byl, Perricone, Bullard, Goschka, Bush, Anthony, Pitoniak, Nye and Jellema

ENROLLED HOUSE BILL No. 4369

AN ACT to amend sections 224, 225, 801, and 804 of Act No. 300 of the Public Acts of 1949, entitled as amended "An act to provide for the registration, titling, sale, transfer, and regulation of certain vehicles operated upon the public highways of this state or any other place open to the general public or generally accessible to motor vehicles and distressed vehicles; to provide for the licensing of dealers; to provide for the examination, licensing, and control of operators and chauffeurs; to provide for the giving of proof of financial responsibility and security by owners and operators of vehicles; to provide for the imposition, levy, and collection of specific taxes on vehicles, and the levy and collection of sales and use taxes, license fees, and permit fees; to provide for the regulation and use of streets and highways; to create certain funds; to provide penalties and sanctions for a violation of this act; to provide for civil liability of owners and operators of vehicles and service of process on residents and nonresidents; to provide for the levy of certain assessments; to provide for the enforcement of this act; to provide for the creation of and to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state and local agencies; to repeal all other acts or parts of acts inconsistent with this act or contrary to this act; and to repeal certain parts of this act on a specific date," sections 224 and 801 as amended by Act No. 395 of the Public Acts of 1994, section 225 as amended by Act No. 132 of the Public Acts of 1984, and section 804 as amended by Act No. 111 of the Public Acts of 1989, being sections 257.224, 257.225, 257.801, and 257.804 of the Michigan Compiled Laws; and to add section 33b.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Section 1. Sections 224, 225, 801, and 804 of Act No. 300 of the Public Acts of 1949, sections 224 and 801 as amended by Act No. 395 of the Public Acts of 1994, section 225 as amended by Act No. 132 of the Public Acts of 1984, and section 804 as amended by Act No. 111 of the Public Acts of 1989, being sections 257.224, 257.225, 257.801, and 257.804 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, are amended and section 33b is added to read as follows:

Sec. 33b. "Nonprofit recycling center" means a nonprofit facility designed and operated solely for receiving, storing, processing, and transferring source-separated recyclable materials such as paper, metal, glass, food waste, office paper, and plastic that are kept separate and apart from residential, commercial, and institutional solid waste by the generator of the waste for the purposes of collection, disposition, and recycling.

Sec. 224. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this act regarding tabs or stickers, upon registering a vehicle, the secretary of state shall issue to the owner 1 registration plate.

(2) A registration plate shall display the registration number assigned to the vehicle for which the registration plate is issued; the name of this state, which may be abbreviated; and when the registration plate expires, which may be shown by a tab or sticker furnished by the secretary of state.

(3) A registration plate issued for motor vehicles owned and operated by this state; a state institution; a municipality; a privately incorporated, nonprofit volunteer fire department; or a nonpublic, nonprofit college or university of this state shall not expire at any particular time but shall be renewed when the registration plate is worn out or is illegible. This registration plate shall be assigned upon proper application and payment of the applicable fee and may be used on any eligible vehicle titled to the applicant if a written record is kept of the vehicles upon which the registration plate is used. The written record shall state the time the registration plate is used on a particular vehicle. The record shall be open to inspection by a law enforcement officer or a representative of the secretary of state.

(4) A registration plate issued for a vehicle owned by the civil air patrol as organized under sections 1 to 8, chapter 527, 60 Stat. 346 to 347, 36 U.S.C. 201 to 208; a vehicle owned by a nonprofit organization and used to transport equipment for providing dialysis treatment to children at camp; an emergency support vehicle used exclusively for emergencies and owned and operated by a federally recognized nonprofit charitable organization; a vehicle owned and operated by a nonprofit veterans center; a motor vehicle having a truck chassis and a locomotive or ship's body which is owned by a nonprofit veterans organization and used exclusively in parades and civic events; a vehicle owned and operated by a nonprofit recycling center or a federally recognized nonprofit conservation organization until December 31, 2000; a motor vehicle owned and operated by a senior citizen center; and a registration plate issued for buses including station wagons, carryalls, or similarly constructed vehicles owned and operated by a nonprofit parents' transportation corporation used for school purposes, parochial school, society, church Sunday school, or other grammar school, or by a nonprofit youth organization or nonprofit rehabilitation facility shall be issued upon proper application and payment of the applicable fee provided in section 801(1)(g) or (h) to the applicant for the vehicle identified in the application. The vehicle shall be used exclusively for activities of the school or organization and shall be designated by proper signs showing the school or organization operating the vehicle. The registration plate shall expire on December 31 in the fifth year following the date of issuance. The registration plate may be transferred to another vehicle upon proper application and payment of a \$10.00 transfer fee.

(5) The registration plate and the required letters and numerals on the registration plate shall be of sufficient size to be plainly readable from a distance of 100 feet during daylight. The secretary of state may issue a tab or tabs designating the month and year of expiration.

(6) The secretary of state shall issue for every passenger motor vehicle rented without a driver the same type of registration plate as the type of registration plate issued for private passenger vehicles.

(7) A person shall not operate a vehicle on the public highways or streets of this state displaying a registration plate other than the registration plate issued for the vehicle by the secretary of state, except as provided in this chapter for nonresidents, and by assignment provided in subsection (3).

(8) The registration plate displayed on a vehicle registered on the basis of elected gross weight shall indicate the elected gross weight for which the vehicle is registered.

Sec. 225. (1) A registration plate issued for a vehicle shall be attached to the rear of the vehicle. Except that a registration plate issued for a truck tractor or road tractor shall be attached to the front of that vehicle.

(2) A registration plate shall at all times be securely fastened in a horizontal position to the vehicle for which the plate is issued so as to prevent the plate from swinging. The plate shall be attached at a height of not less than 12 inches from the ground, measured from the bottom of the plate, in a place and position which is clearly visible. The plate shall be maintained free from foreign materials that obscure or partially obscure the registration information, and in a clearly legible condition.

(3) A registration plate or the expiration tab on the registration plate shall be of a different color designated by the secretary of state with a marked contrast between the color of the registration plate and the numerals or letters on the plate. The secretary of state may provide a distinctive registration plate as a replacement for a standard plate. To honor a special or historical event, the secretary of state may provide a commemorative plate as a replacement for a standard plate.

(4) A person shall not attach a name plate, insignia, or advertising device to a motor vehicle registration plate in a manner which obscures or partially obscures the registration information.

(5) A person shall not operate a motor vehicle which has a name plate, insignia, or advertising device attached to a motor vehicle registration plate in a manner which obscures or partially obscures the registration information.

(6) A person who violates this section is responsible for a civil infraction.

Sec. 801. (1) The secretary of state shall collect the following taxes at the time of registering a vehicle, which shall exempt the vehicle from all other state and local taxation, except the fees and taxes provided by law to be paid by certain carriers operating motor vehicles and trailers under the motor carrier act, Act No. 254 of the Public Acts of 1933, being sections 475.1 to 479.20 of the Michigan Compiled Laws; the taxes imposed by the motor carrier fuel tax act, Act No. 119 of the Public Acts of 1980, being sections 207.211 to 207.235 of the Michigan Compiled Laws; a fee or fees imposed pursuant to the local road improvements and operations revenue act, Act No. 237 of the Public Acts of 1987, being sections 247.521 to 247.525 of the Michigan Compiled Laws; and except as otherwise provided by this act:

(a) For a motor vehicle, including a motor home, except as otherwise provided, and a pickup truck or van, which pickup truck or van weighs not more than 5,000 pounds and is not taxed under subdivision (p), except as otherwise provided, according to the following schedule of empty weights:

Empty weights	Fee
0 to 3,000 pounds	\$ 29.00
3,001 to 3,500 pounds	32.00
3,501 to 4,000 pounds	37.00
4,001 to 4,500 pounds	43.00
4,501 to 5,000 pounds	47.00
5,001 to 5,500 pounds	52.00
5,501 to 6,000 pounds	57.00
6,001 to 6,500 pounds	62.00
6,501 to 7,000 pounds	67.00
7,001 to 7,500 pounds	71.00
7,501 to 8,000 pounds	77.00
8,001 to 8,500 pounds	81.00
8,501 to 9,000 pounds	86.00
9,001 to 9,500 pounds	91.00
9,501 to 10,000 pounds	95.00
over 10,000 pounds.....	\$ 0.90 per 100 pounds of empty weight

On October 1, 1983, and October 1, 1984, the tax assessed under this subdivision shall be annually revised for the registrations expiring on the appropriate October 1 or after that date by multiplying the tax assessed in the preceding fiscal year times the personal income of Michigan for the preceding calendar year divided by the personal income of Michigan for the calendar year which preceded that calendar year. In performing the calculations under this subdivision, the secretary of state shall use the spring preliminary report of the United States department of commerce or its successor agency. A van which is owned by a person who uses a wheelchair or by a person who transports a resident of his or her household who uses a wheelchair and for which registration plates are issued pursuant to section 803d shall be assessed at the rate of 50% of the tax provided for in this subdivision.

(b) For a trailer coach attached to a motor vehicle 76 cents per 100 pounds of empty weight of the trailer coach. A trailer coach not under Act No. 243 of the Public Acts of 1959, being sections 125.1035 to 125.1043 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and while located on land otherwise assessable as real property under the general property tax act, Act No. 206 of the Public Acts of 1893, as amended, being sections 211.1 to 211.157 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, if the trailer coach is used as a place of habitation, and whether or not permanently affixed to the soil, shall not be exempt from real property taxes.

(c) For a road tractor, truck, or truck tractor owned by a farmer and used exclusively in connection with the farmer's farming operations, or used for the transportation of the farmer and the farmer's family, and not used for hire, 74 cents per 100 pounds of empty weight of the road tractor, truck, or truck tractor.

(d) For a road tractor, truck, or truck tractor owned by a wood harvester and used exclusively in connection with the wood harvesting operations, 74 cents per 100 pounds of empty weight of the road tractor, truck, or truck tractor. A registration secured by payment of the fee as prescribed in this subdivision shall continue in full force and effect until the regular expiration date of the registration. As used in this subdivision, "wood harvester" includes the person or persons hauling and transporting raw materials only from the forest to the mill site. "Wood harvesting operations" does not include the transportation of processed lumber.

(e) For a hearse or ambulance used exclusively by a licensed funeral director in the general conduct of the licensee's funeral business, including a hearse or ambulance whose owner is engaged in the business of leasing or renting the hearse or ambulance to others, \$1.17 per 100 pounds of the empty weight of the hearse or ambulance.

(f) For a motor vehicle owned and operated by this state, a state institution, a municipality, a privately incorporated, nonprofit volunteer fire department, or a nonpublic, nonprofit college or university, \$5.00 per set; and for each motor vehicle operating under municipal franchise, weighing less than 2,500 pounds, 65 cents per 100 pounds of the empty weight of the motor vehicle, weighing from 2,500 to 4,000 pounds, 80 cents per 100 pounds of the empty weight of the

motor vehicle, weighing 4,001 to 6,000 pounds, \$1.00 per 100 pounds of the empty weight of the motor vehicle, and weighing over 6,000 pounds, \$1.25 per 100 pounds of the empty weight of the motor vehicle.

(g) For a bus including a station wagon, carryall, or similarly constructed vehicle owned and operated by a nonprofit parents' transportation corporation used for school purposes, parochial school or society, church Sunday school, or any other grammar school, or by a nonprofit youth organization or nonprofit rehabilitation facility; or a motor vehicle owned and operated by a senior citizen center, \$10.00 per set, if the bus, station wagon, carryall, or similarly constructed vehicle or motor vehicle is designated by proper signs showing the organization operating the vehicle.

(h) For a vehicle owned by a nonprofit organization and used to transport equipment for providing dialysis treatment to children at camp; for a vehicle owned by the civil air patrol, as organized under sections 1 to 8 of chapter 527, 60 Stat. 346, 36 U.S.C. 201 to 208, \$10.00 per plate, if the vehicle is designated by a proper sign showing the civil air patrol's name; for a vehicle owned and operated by a nonprofit veterans center; for a vehicle owned and operated by a nonprofit recycling center or a federally recognized nonprofit conservation organization until December 31, 2000; for a motor vehicle having a truck chassis and a locomotive or ship's body which is owned by a nonprofit veterans organization and used exclusively in parades and civic events; or for an emergency support vehicle used exclusively for emergencies and owned and operated by a federally recognized nonprofit charitable organization, \$10.00 per plate.

(i) For each truck owned and operated free of charge by a bona fide ecclesiastical or charitable corporation, or red cross, girl scout, or boy scout organization, 65 cents per 100 pounds of the empty weight of the truck.

(j) For each truck, weighing 8,000 pounds or less, and not used to tow a vehicle, for each privately owned truck used to tow a trailer for recreational purposes only and not involved in a profit making venture, and for each vehicle designed and used to tow a mobile home or a trailer coach, except as provided in subdivision (b), \$38.00 or an amount computed according to the following schedule of empty weights, whichever is greater:

Empty weights	Per 100 pounds
0 to 2,500 pounds.....	\$ 1.40
2,501 to 4,000 pounds.....	1.76
4,001 to 6,000 pounds.....	2.20
6,001 to 8,000 pounds.....	2.72
8,001 to 10,000 pounds.....	3.25
10,001 to 15,000 pounds.....	3.77
15,001 pounds and over.....	4.39

If the tax required under subdivision (q) for a vehicle of the same model year with the same list price as the vehicle for which registration is sought under this subdivision is more than the tax provided under the preceding provisions of this subdivision for an identical vehicle, the tax required under this subdivision shall not be less than the tax required under subdivision (q) for a vehicle of the same model year with the same list price.

(k) For each truck weighing 8,000 pounds or less towing a trailer or any other combination of vehicles and for each truck weighing 8,001 pounds or more, road tractor or truck tractor, except as provided in subdivision (j), according to the following schedule of elected gross weights:

Elected gross weight	Fee
0 to 24,000 pounds.....	\$ 378.00
24,001 to 28,000 pounds.....	429.00
28,001 to 32,000 pounds.....	499.00
32,001 to 36,000 pounds.....	572.00
36,001 to 42,000 pounds.....	672.00
42,001 to 48,000 pounds.....	773.00
48,001 to 54,000 pounds.....	873.00
54,001 to 60,000 pounds.....	975.00
60,001 to 66,000 pounds.....	1,075.00
66,001 to 72,000 pounds.....	1,176.00
72,001 to 80,000 pounds.....	1,277.00
80,001 to 90,000 pounds.....	1,379.00
90,001 to 100,000 pounds.....	1,540.00
100,001 to 115,000 pounds.....	1,710.00
115,001 to 130,000 pounds.....	1,883.00
130,001 to 145,000 pounds.....	2,054.00
145,001 to 160,000 pounds.....	2,226.00
over 160,000 pounds.....	2,398.00

For each commercial vehicle registered pursuant to this subdivision \$15.00 shall be deposited in a truck safety fund to be expended for the purposes prescribed in section 25 of Act No. 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, being section 247.675 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

If a truck or road tractor without trailer is leased from an individual owner-operator, the lessee, whether a person, firm, or corporation, shall pay to the owner-operator 60% of the fee prescribed in this subdivision for the truck tractor or road tractor at the rate of 1/12 for each month of the lease or arrangement in addition to the compensation the owner-operator is entitled to for the rental of his or her equipment.

(l) For each pole trailer, semitrailer, or trailer, according to the following schedule of rates:

Empty weights	Fee
0 to 500 pounds.....	\$ 17.00
501 to 1,500 pounds.....	24.00
1,501 pounds and over.....	39.00

(m) For each commercial vehicle used for the transportation of passengers for hire except for a vehicle for which a payment is made pursuant to Act No. 2 of the Public Acts of 1960, being sections 257.971 to 257.972 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, according to the following schedule of empty weights:

Empty weights	Per 100 pounds
0 to 4,000 pounds.....	\$ 1.76
4,001 to 6,000 pounds.....	2.20
6,001 to 10,000 pounds.....	2.72
10,001 pounds and over.....	3.25

(n) For each motorcycle..... \$ 23.00

On October 1, 1983, and October 1, 1984, the tax assessed under this subdivision shall be annually revised for the registrations expiring on the appropriate October 1 or after that date by multiplying the tax assessed in the preceding fiscal year times the personal income of Michigan for the preceding calendar year divided by the personal income of Michigan for the calendar year which preceded that calendar year. In performing the calculations under this subdivision, the secretary of state shall use the spring preliminary report of the United States department of commerce or its successor agency.

Beginning January 1, 1984, the registration tax for each motorcycle shall be increased by \$3.00. The \$3.00 increase shall not be considered as part of the tax assessed under this subdivision for the purpose of the annual October 1 revisions but shall be in addition to the tax assessed as a result of the annual October 1 revisions. Beginning January 1, 1984, \$3.00 of each motorcycle fee shall be placed in a motorcycle safety fund in the state treasury and shall be used only for funding the motorcycle safety education program as provided for under sections 312b and 811a.

(o) For each truck weighing 8,001 pounds or more, road tractor, or truck tractor used exclusively as a moving van or part of a moving van in transporting household furniture and household effects or the equipment or those engaged in conducting carnivals, at the rate of 80% of the schedule of elected gross weights in subdivision (k) as modified by the operation of that subdivision.

(p) For each pickup truck or van, which pickup truck or van weighs not more than 5,000 pounds and is owned by a business, corporation, or person other than an individual, according to the following schedule of empty weights:

Empty weights	Fee
0 to 4,000 pounds.....	\$ 39.00
4,001 to 4,500 pounds.....	44.00
4,501 to 5,000 pounds.....	49.00

(q) After September 30, 1983, each motor vehicle of the 1984 or a subsequent model year as shown on the application required under section 217 which has not been previously subject to the tax rates of this section and which is of the motor vehicle category otherwise subject to the tax schedule described in subdivision (a) according to the following schedule based upon registration periods of 12 months:

(i) Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, for the first registration, which is not a transfer registration under section 809 and for the first registration after a transfer registration under section 809, according to the following schedule based on the vehicle's list price:

List Price	Tax
\$0 - \$6,000.00.....	\$ 30.00
More than \$6,000.00 - \$7,000.00.....	\$ 33.00
More than \$7,000.00 - \$8,000.00.....	\$ 38.00
More than \$8,000.00 - \$9,000.00.....	\$ 43.00
More than \$9,000.00 - \$10,000.00.....	\$ 48.00
More than \$10,000.00 - \$11,000.00.....	\$ 53.00
More than \$11,000.00 - \$12,000.00.....	\$ 58.00
More than \$12,000.00 - \$13,000.00.....	\$ 63.00
More than \$13,000.00 - \$14,000.00.....	\$ 68.00
More than \$14,000.00 - \$15,000.00.....	\$ 73.00
More than \$15,000.00 - \$16,000.00.....	\$ 78.00

More than \$16,000.00 - \$17,000.00.....	\$ 83.00
More than \$17,000.00 - \$18,000.00.....	\$ 88.00
More than \$18,000.00 - \$19,000.00.....	\$ 93.00
More than \$19,000.00 - \$20,000.00.....	\$ 98.00
More than \$20,000.00 - \$21,000.00.....	\$ 103.00
More than \$21,000.00 - \$22,000.00.....	\$ 108.00
More than \$22,000.00 - \$23,000.00.....	\$ 113.00
More than \$23,000.00 - \$24,000.00.....	\$ 118.00
More than \$24,000.00 - \$25,000.00.....	\$ 123.00
More than \$25,000.00 - \$26,000.00.....	\$ 128.00
More than \$26,000.00 - \$27,000.00.....	\$ 133.00
More than \$27,000.00 - \$28,000.00.....	\$ 138.00
More than \$28,000.00 - \$29,000.00.....	\$ 143.00
More than \$29,000.00 - \$30,000.00.....	\$ 148.00
More than \$30,000.00.....	0.5% of the list price

(ii) For the second registration, 90% of the tax assessed under subparagraph (i).

(iii) For the third registration, 90% of the tax assessed under subparagraph (ii).

(iv) For the fourth and subsequent registrations, 90% of the tax assessed under subparagraph (iii).

For a vehicle of the 1984 or a subsequent model year which has been previously registered by a person other than the person applying for registration or for a vehicle of the 1984 or a subsequent model year which has been previously registered in another state or country and is registered for the first time in this state, the tax under this subdivision shall be determined by subtracting the model year of the vehicle from the calendar year for which the registration is sought. If the result is zero or a negative figure, the first registration tax shall be paid. If the result is 1, 2, or 3 or more, then, respectively, the second, third, or subsequent registration tax shall be paid. A van which is owned by a person who uses a wheelchair or by a person who transports a resident of his or her household who uses a wheelchair and for which registration plates are issued pursuant to section 803d shall be assessed at the rate of 50% of the tax provided for in this subdivision.

(r) For a wrecker, \$200.00.

(s) When the secretary of state computes a tax under this section, a computation which does not result in a whole dollar figure shall be rounded to the next lower whole dollar when the computation results in a figure ending in 50 cents or less and shall be rounded to the next higher whole dollar when the computation results in a figure ending in 51 cents or more, unless specific fees are specified, and may accept the manufacturer's shipping weight of the vehicle fully equipped for the use for which the registration application is made. If the weight is not correctly stated or is not satisfactory, the secretary of state shall determine the actual weight. Each application for registration of a vehicle under subdivisions (j) and (m) shall have attached to the application a scale weight receipt of the vehicle fully equipped as of the time the application is made. The scale weight receipt is not necessary if there is presented with the application a registration receipt of the previous year which shows on its face the weight of the motor vehicle as registered with the secretary of state and which is accompanied by a statement of the applicant that there has not been a structural change in the motor vehicle which has increased the weight and that the previous registered weight is the true weight.

(2) A manufacturer is not exempted under this act from paying ad valorem taxes on vehicles in stock or bond, except on the specified number of motor vehicles registered. A dealer is exempt from paying ad valorem taxes on vehicles in stock or bond.

(3) The fee for a vehicle with an empty weight over 10,000 pounds imposed pursuant to subsection (1)(a) and the fees imposed pursuant to subsection (1)(b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (i), (j), (m), (o), and (q) shall each be increased by \$5.00. This increase shall be credited to the Michigan transportation fund and used to defray the costs of processing the registrations under this section.

(4) As used in this section:

(a) "Gross proceeds" means gross proceeds as defined in section 1 of the general sales tax act, Act No. 167 of the Public Acts of 1933, being section 205.51 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. However, gross proceeds shall include the value of the motor vehicle used as part payment of the purchase price as that value is agreed to by the parties to the sale, as evidenced by the signed agreement executed pursuant to section 251.

(b) "List price" means the manufacturer's suggested base list price as published by the secretary of state, or the manufacturer's suggested retail price as shown on the label required to be affixed to the vehicle under section 3 of the automobile information disclosure act, Public Law 85-506, 15 U.S.C. 1232, if the secretary of state has not at the time of the sale of the vehicle published a manufacturer's suggested retail price for that vehicle, or the purchase price of the vehicle if the manufacturer's suggested base list price is unavailable from the sources described in this subdivision.

(c) "Purchase price" means the gross proceeds received by the seller in consideration of the sale of the motor vehicle being registered.

Sec. 804. A fee of \$5.00 shall be paid with each application for a duplicate or replacement license plate provided for in section 229. A fee of \$10.00 shall be paid with each application for a duplicate or replacement set of plates provided for in section 803m. In addition to any other fees required under this act, a \$5.00 service fee shall be paid with each application for each distinctive or commemorative plate provided for in this act to cover manufacturing and issuance costs unless these costs are otherwise specifically provided for in this act.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Secretary of the Senate.

Approved -----

Governor.