

SENATE BILL NO. 541

May 28, 1997, Introduced by Senators NORTH and SHUGARS and referred to the Committee on Transportation and Tourism.

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled
"Michigan vehicle code,"
by amending section 907 (MCL 257.907), as amended by 1995 PA 287.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 907. (1) A violation of this act, or a local ordinance
2 substantially corresponding to a provision of this act, which is
3 designated a civil infraction shall not be considered a lesser
4 included offense of a criminal offense.

5 (2) If a person is determined pursuant to sections 741 to
6 750 to be responsible or responsible "with explanation" for a
7 civil infraction under this act or a local ordinance substan-
8 tially corresponding to a provision of this act, the judge,
9 district court referee, or district court magistrate may order
10 the person to pay a civil fine of not more than \$100.00 and costs

1 as provided in subsection (4). However, for a violation of
2 section 674(1)(s) or a local ordinance substantially correspond-
3 ing to section 674(1)(s), the person shall be ordered to pay
4 costs as provided in subsection (4) and a civil fine of not less
5 than \$50.00 nor more than \$100.00. FOR A VIOLATION OF
6 SECTION 644, THE PERSON SHALL BE ORDERED TO PAY COSTS AS PROVIDED
7 IN SUBSECTION (4) AND A CIVIL FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$200.00. For
8 a violation of section 328 or 710d, the civil fine ordered under
9 this subsection shall not exceed \$10.00. For a violation of sec-
10 tion 710e, the civil fine and court costs ordered under this sub-
11 section shall be \$25.00. Permission may be granted for payment
12 of a civil fine and costs to be made within a specified period of
13 time or in specified installments, but unless permission is
14 included in the order or judgment, the civil fine and costs shall
15 be payable immediately.

16 (3) If a person is determined to be responsible or responsi-
17 ble "with explanation" for a civil infraction under this act or a
18 local ordinance substantially corresponding to a provision of
19 this act while driving a commercial motor vehicle, he or she
20 shall be ordered to pay costs as provided in subsection (4) and a
21 civil fine of not more than \$250.00.

22 (4) If a civil fine is ordered to be paid under
23 subsection (2) or (3), the judge, district court referee, or dis-
24 trict court magistrate shall summarily tax and determine the
25 costs of the action, which shall not be limited to the costs tax-
26 able in ordinary civil actions, and may include all expenses,
27 direct and indirect, to which the plaintiff has been put in

1 connection with the civil infraction, up to the entry of
2 judgment. Except in a civil infraction for a parking violation,
3 costs of not less than \$5.00 shall be ordered. Costs shall not
4 be ordered in excess of \$100.00. Except as otherwise provided by
5 law, costs shall be payable to the general fund of the
6 plaintiff.

7 (5) In addition to a civil fine and costs ordered under
8 subsection (2) or (3) and subsection (4), the judge, district
9 court referee, or district court magistrate may order the person
10 to attend and complete a program of treatment, education, or
11 rehabilitation.

12 (6) A district court referee or district court magistrate
13 shall impose the sanctions permitted under subsections (2), (3),
14 and (5) only to the extent expressly authorized by the chief
15 judge or only judge of the district court district.

16 (7) Each district of the district court and each municipal
17 court may establish a schedule of civil fines and costs to be
18 imposed for civil infractions which occur within the respective
19 district or city. If a schedule is established, it shall be
20 prominently posted and readily available for public inspection.
21 A schedule need not include all violations which are designated
22 by law or ordinance as civil infractions. A schedule may exclude
23 cases on the basis of a defendant's prior record of civil infrac-
24 tions or traffic offenses, or a combination of civil infractions
25 and traffic offenses.

26 (8) The state court administrator shall annually publish and
27 distribute to each district and court a recommended range of

1 civil fines and costs for first-time civil infractions. This
2 recommendation shall not be binding upon the courts having juris-
3 diction over civil infractions but is intended to act as a norma-
4 tive guide for judges, district court referees, and district
5 court magistrates and a basis for public evaluation of dispari-
6 ties in the imposition of civil fines and costs throughout the
7 state.

8 (9) If a person has received a civil infraction citation for
9 defective safety equipment on a vehicle under section 683, the
10 court shall waive a civil fine and costs, upon receipt of certi-
11 fication by a law enforcement agency that repair of the defective
12 equipment was made before the appearance date on the citation.

13 (10) A default in the payment of a civil fine or costs
14 ordered under subsection (2), (3), or (4) or an installment of
15 the fine or costs may be collected by a means authorized for the
16 enforcement of a judgment under chapter 40 of the revised judica-
17 ture act of 1961, ~~Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, being~~
18 ~~sections 600.4001 to 600.4065 of the Michigan Compiled Laws~~ 1961
19 PA 236, MCL 600.4001 TO 600.4065, or under chapter 60 of ~~Act~~
20 ~~No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, being sections 600.6001 to~~
21 ~~600.6098 of the Michigan Compiled Laws~~ THE REVISED JUDICATURE
22 ACT OF 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.6001 TO 600.6098.

23 (11) If a person fails to comply with an order or judgment
24 issued pursuant to this section, within the time prescribed by
25 the court, the driver's license of that person shall be suspended
26 pursuant to section 321a until full compliance with that order or

1 judgment occurs. In addition to this suspension, the court may
2 also proceed under section 908.

3 (12) The court shall waive any civil fine or cost against a
4 person who received a civil infraction citation for a violation
5 of section 710d if the person, before the appearance date on the
6 citation, supplies the court with evidence of acquisition, pur-
7 chase, or rental of a child seating system meeting the require-
8 ments of section 710d.

9 (13) In addition to any fines and costs ordered to be paid
10 under this section, the judge, district court referee, or dis-
11 trict court magistrate shall levy an assessment of \$5.00 for each
12 civil infraction determination, except for a parking violation or
13 a violation for which the total fine and costs imposed are \$10.00
14 or less. Upon payment of the assessment, the clerk of the court
15 shall transmit the assessment levied to the state treasury to be
16 deposited into the Michigan justice training fund. An assessment
17 levied under this subsection shall not be considered a civil fine
18 for purposes of section 909.

19 (14) If a person has received a citation for a violation of
20 section 223, the court shall waive any fine and costs, upon
21 receipt of certification by a law enforcement agency that the
22 person, before the appearance date on the citation, produced a
23 valid registration certificate that was valid on the date the
24 violation of section 223 occurred.