

**SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 581**

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled  
"Michigan vehicle code,"  
by amending section 717 (MCL 257.717), as amended by 1999 PA 63.

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

1       Sec. 717. (1) The total outside width of a vehicle or the  
2 load on a vehicle shall not exceed 96 inches, except as otherwise  
3 provided in this section.

4       (2) A person may operate or move an implement of husbandry  
5 of any width on a highway as required, designed, and intended for  
6 farming operations, including the movement of implements of hus-  
7 bandry being driven or towed and not hauled on a trailer, without  
8 obtaining a special permit for an excessively wide vehicle or  
9 load under section 725. The operation or movement of the  
10 implement of husbandry shall be in a manner so as to minimize the  
11 interruption of traffic flow. A person shall not operate or move

1 an implement of husbandry to the left of the center of the  
2 roadway from a half hour after sunset to a half hour before sun-  
3 rise, under the conditions specified in section 639, or at any  
4 time visibility is substantially diminished due to weather  
5 conditions. A person operating or moving an implement of hus-  
6 bandry shall follow all traffic regulations.

7 (3) The total outside width of the load of a vehicle hauling  
8 concrete pipe, agricultural products, or unprocessed logs, pulp-  
9 wood, or wood bolts shall not exceed 108 inches.

10 (4) Except as provided in subsection (2) AND THIS  
11 SUBSECTION, if a vehicle ~~which~~ THAT is equipped with pneumatic  
12 tires is operated on a highway, the maximum width from the out-  
13 side of 1 wheel and tire to the outside of the opposite wheel and  
14 tire shall not exceed 102 inches, and the outside width of the  
15 body of the vehicle or the load on the vehicle shall not exceed  
16 96 inches. HOWEVER, A TRUCK AND TRAILER OR A TRACTOR AND SEMI-  
17 TRAILER COMBINATION HAULING PULPWOOD OR UNPROCESSED LOGS MAY BE  
18 OPERATED WITH A MAXIMUM WIDTH OF NOT TO EXCEED 108 INCHES IN  
19 ACCORDANCE WITH A SPECIAL PERMIT ISSUED UNDER SECTION 725.

20 (5) The total outside width of a bus or a motor home shall  
21 not exceed 102 inches.

22 (6) A vehicle shall not extend beyond the center line of a  
23 state trunk line highway except when authorized by law. Except  
24 as provided in subsection (2), if the width of the vehicle makes  
25 it impossible to stay away from the center line, a permit shall  
26 be obtained under section 725.

1       (7) The director of the state transportation department, a  
2 county road commission, or a local authority may designate a  
3 highway under the agency's jurisdiction as a highway on which a  
4 person may operate a vehicle or vehicle combination that is not  
5 more than 102 inches in width, including load, the operation of  
6 which would otherwise be prohibited by this section. The agency  
7 making the designation may require that the owner or lessee of  
8 the vehicle or of each vehicle in the vehicle combination secure  
9 a permit before operating the vehicle or vehicle combination.

10 This subsection does not restrict the issuance of a special  
11 permit under section 725 for the operation of a vehicle or vehi-  
12 cle combination. This subsection does not permit the operation  
13 of a vehicle or vehicle combination described in section 722a  
14 carrying a load described in that section if the operation would  
15 otherwise result in a violation of that section.

16       (8) A person who violates this section is responsible for a  
17 civil infraction. The owner of the vehicle may be charged with a  
18 violation of this section.