

MICHIGAN VEHICLE CODE - FARM IMPLEMENT WIDTH/HEIGHT PERMITS



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FISCAL ANALYSIS

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SENATE BILL 694 H-1

Sponsor: Sen. George A. McManus
House Committee: Transportation

FLOOR ANALYSIS - 12/11/02

Analyst(s): William Hamilton

SUMMARY

Section 725a of the Michigan Vehicle Code currently authorizes the Michigan Department of Transportation to issue, upon application, an annual permit authorizing a farm implement dealer to transport on state highways during daylight hours farm machinery of a greater width or height than would normally be authorized under the size, weight, and load limitations of the Code. Senate Bill 694 would amend the section to add the words "including Saturday" following "during daylight hours". The bill would have no apparent fiscal impact.

Current law authorizes the department to issue permits but does not require the department to do so. The Senate-passed bill included language which would have required the department to issue such permits. A December 10, 2002 letter from the Administrator of the Michigan Division of the Federal Highway Administration indicated that the bill, as passed the Senate, would have been inconsistent with federal law. The House substitute did not include the "shall issue" language and, if enacted, would be in consistent with federal law.