

Act No. 34
Public Acts of 2003
Approved by the Governor
July 2, 2003
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EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2003

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
92ND LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2003**

**Introduced by Reps. Accavitti, Wojno, Spade, Smith, Bieda, Julian, Dennis, Tobocman, Jamnick, Hunter,
Gieleghem, McConico, Hopgood and Anderson**

ENROLLED HOUSE BILL No. 4333

AN ACT to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled "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 impose liability upon the state or local agencies; to provide appropriations for certain purposes; 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," by amending section 907 (MCL 257.907), as amended by 2002 PA 534.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

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

(2) If a person is determined pursuant to sections 741 to 750 to be responsible or responsible "with explanation" for a civil infraction under this act or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to a provision of this act, the judge or district court magistrate may order the person to pay a civil fine of not more than \$100.00 and costs as provided in subsection (4).

However, for a violation of section 674(1)(s) or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 674(1)(s), the person shall be ordered to pay costs as provided in subsection (4) and a civil fine of not less than \$100.00 or more than \$250.00. For a violation of section 328 or 710d, the civil fine ordered under this subsection shall not exceed \$10.00. For a violation of section 710e, the civil fine and court costs ordered under this subsection shall be \$25.00. For a violation of section 682 or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 682, the person shall be ordered to pay costs as provided in subsection (4) and a civil fine of not less than \$100.00 or more than \$500.00. Permission may be granted for payment of a civil fine and costs to be made within a specified period of time or in specified installments, but unless permission is included in the order or judgment, the civil fine and costs shall be payable immediately.

(3) Except as provided in this subsection, if a person is determined to be responsible or responsible “with explanation” for a civil infraction under this act or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to a provision of this act while driving a commercial motor vehicle, he or she shall be ordered to pay costs as provided in subsection (4) and a civil fine of not more than \$250.00. If a person is determined to be responsible or responsible “with explanation” for a civil infraction under section 319g or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 319g, that person shall be ordered to pay costs as provided in subsection (4) and a civil fine of not more than \$10,000.00.

(4) If a civil fine is ordered under subsection (2) or (3), the judge or district court magistrate shall summarily tax and determine the costs of the action, which are not limited to the costs taxable in ordinary civil actions, and may include all expenses, direct and indirect, to which the plaintiff has been put in connection with the civil infraction, up to the entry of judgment. Except in a civil infraction for a parking violation, costs of not less than \$5.00 shall be ordered. Costs shall not be ordered in excess of \$100.00. A civil fine ordered under subsection (2) or (3) shall not be waived unless costs ordered under this subsection are waived. Except as otherwise provided by law, costs are payable to the general fund of the plaintiff.

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

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

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

(8) The state court administrator shall annually publish and distribute to each district and court a recommended range of civil fines and costs for first-time civil infractions. This recommendation is not binding upon the courts having jurisdiction over civil infractions but is intended to act as a normative guide for judges and district court magistrates and a basis for public evaluation of disparities in the imposition of civil fines and costs throughout the state.

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

(10) A default in the payment of a civil fine or costs ordered under subsection (2), (3), or (4) or an installment of the fine or costs may be collected by a means authorized for the enforcement of a judgment under chapter 40 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.4001 to 600.4065, or under chapter 60 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.6001 to 600.6098.

(11) If a person fails to comply with an order or judgment issued pursuant to this section, within the time prescribed by the court, the driver’s license of that person shall be suspended pursuant to section 321a until full compliance with that order or judgment occurs. In addition to this suspension, the court may also proceed under section 908.

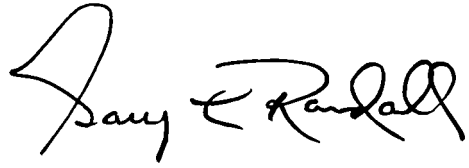
(12) The court shall waive any civil fine or cost against a person who received a civil infraction citation for a violation of section 710d if the person, before the appearance date on the citation, supplies the court with evidence of acquisition, purchase, or rental of a child seating system meeting the requirements of section 710d.

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

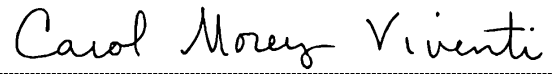
(14) If a person has received a citation for a violation of section 223, the court shall waive any fine and costs, upon receipt of certification by a law enforcement agency that the person, before the appearance date on the citation, produced a valid registration certificate that was valid on the date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

Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect October 1, 2003.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.



Clerk of the House of Representatives



Secretary of the Senate

Approved _____

Governor