

HOUSE BILL No. 4328

February 18, 2009, Introduced by Rep. Mayes and referred to the Committee on Transportation.

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled
"Michigan vehicle code,"
by amending section 244 (MCL 257.244), as amended by 2008 PA 539.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 244. (1) A manufacturer owning a vehicle of a type
2 otherwise required to be registered under this act may operate or
3 move the vehicle upon a street or highway primarily for the
4 purposes of transporting or testing or in connection with a golf
5 tournament or a public civic event, if the vehicle displays, in the
6 manner prescribed in section 225, 1 special plate approved by the
7 secretary of state.

8 (2) A producer of a vehicle subcomponent system essential to
9 the operation of the vehicle or the safety of an occupant may

1 operate or move a motor vehicle upon a street or highway solely to
2 transport or test the subcomponent system if the motor vehicle
3 displays, in the manner prescribed in section 225, 1 special plate
4 approved by the secretary of state. To be eligible for the special
5 plate, the subcomponent system producer must be either a recognized
6 subcomponent system producer or must be a subcomponent system
7 producer under contract with a vehicle manufacturer.

8 (3) A dealer owning a vehicle of a type otherwise required to
9 be registered under this act may operate or move the vehicle upon a
10 street or highway without registering the vehicle if the vehicle
11 displays, in the manner prescribed in section 225, 1 special plate
12 issued to the owner by the secretary of state. As used in this
13 subsection, "dealer" includes an employee, servant, or agent of the
14 dealer.

15 (4) Solely to deliver the vehicle, a transporter may operate
16 or move a vehicle of a type otherwise required to be registered
17 under this act upon a street or highway if the vehicle displays, in
18 the manner prescribed in section 225, a special plate issued to the
19 transporter under this chapter.

20 (5) A licensee shall not use a special plate described in this
21 section on service cars or wreckers operated as an adjunct of a
22 licensee's business. A manufacturer, transporter, or dealer making
23 or permitting any unauthorized use of a special plate under this
24 chapter forfeits the right to use special plates and the secretary
25 of state, after notice and a hearing, may suspend or cancel the
26 right to use special plates and require that the special plates be
27 surrendered to or repossessed by the state.

1 (6) A transporter shall furnish a sufficient surety bond or
2 policy of insurance as protection for public liability and property
3 damage as may be required by the secretary of state.

4 (7) The secretary of state shall determine the number of
5 plates a manufacturer, dealer, or transporter reasonably needs in
6 his or her business.

7 (8) If a vehicle that is required to be registered under this
8 act is leased or sold, the vendee or lessee is permitted to operate
9 the vehicle upon a street or highway for not more than 72 hours
10 after taking possession if the vehicle has a dealer plate attached
11 as provided in this section. The application for registration shall
12 be made in the name of the vendee or lessee before the vehicle is
13 used. The dealer and the vendee or lessee are jointly responsible
14 for the return of the dealer plate to the dealer within 72 hours,
15 and the failure of the vendee or lessee to return or the vendor or
16 lessor to use due diligence to procure the dealer plate is a
17 misdemeanor **PUNISHABLE BY IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN 90 DAYS OR**
18 **A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$100.00, OR BOTH,** and in addition the
19 license of the dealer may be revoked. While using a dealer's plate,
20 a vendee or lessee shall have in his or her possession proof that
21 clearly indicates the date of sale or lease of the motor vehicle.

22 (9) A vehicle owned by a dealer and bearing the dealer's plate
23 may be driven upon a street or highway for demonstration purposes,
24 **INCLUDING COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS,** by a prospective buyer or lessee
25 for a period of 72 hours.

26 (10) The secretary of state may issue a registration plate
27 upon application and payment of the proper fee to an individual,

1 partnership, corporation, or association that in the ordinary
2 course of business has occasion to legally pick up or deliver a
3 commercial motor vehicle being driven to a facility to undergo
4 aftermarket modification, or to repair or service a vehicle, or to
5 persons defined as watercraft dealers under part 801 of the natural
6 resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL
7 324.80101 to 324.80199, or to the owner of a marina for the purpose
8 of delivering a vessel or trailer to a purchaser, to transport a
9 vessel between a body of water and a place of storage, to transport
10 a vessel or trailer to and from a boat show or exposition, to
11 repair, service, or store a vessel or trailer, or to return a
12 vessel or trailer to the customer after repair, service, or
13 storage. A registration plate issued under this subsection shall be
14 used to move the vehicle or trailer.