

**SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 940**

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled  
"Michigan vehicle code,"  
by amending section 717 (MCL 257.717), as amended by 2008 PA 539.

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

1       Sec. 717. (1) The total outside width of a vehicle or the load  
2 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 of  
5 any width on a highway as required, designed, and intended for  
6 farming operations, including the movement of implements of  
7 husbandry being driven or towed and not hauled on a trailer,  
8 without obtaining a special permit for an excessively wide vehicle  
9 or load under section 725. The operation or movement of the

1 implement of husbandry shall be in a manner so as to minimize the  
2 interruption of traffic flow. A person shall not operate or move an  
3 implement of husbandry to the left of the center of the roadway  
4 from a half hour after sunset to a half hour before sunrise, under  
5 the conditions specified in section 639, or at any time visibility  
6 is substantially diminished due to weather conditions. A person  
7 operating or moving an implement of husbandry shall follow all  
8 traffic regulations.

9 (3) The total outside width of the load of a vehicle hauling  
10 concrete pipe, **FERROUS PIPE**, agricultural products, or unprocessed  
11 logs, pulpwood, or wood bolts shall not exceed 108 inches.

12 (4) Except as provided in subsections (2) and (5) and this  
13 subsection, if a vehicle that is equipped with pneumatic tires is  
14 operated on a highway, the maximum width from the outside of 1  
15 wheel and tire to the outside of the opposite wheel and tire shall  
16 not exceed 102 inches, and the outside width of the body of the  
17 vehicle or the load on the vehicle shall not exceed 96 inches.  
18 However, a truck and trailer or a tractor and semitrailer  
19 combination hauling pulpwood or unprocessed logs may be operated  
20 with a maximum width of not to exceed 108 inches in accordance with  
21 a special permit issued under section 725.

22 (5) The total outside body width of a bus, a trailer coach, a  
23 trailer, a semitrailer, a truck camper, or a motor home shall not  
24 exceed 102 inches. However, an appurtenance of a trailer coach, a  
25 truck camper, or a motor home that extends not more than 6 inches  
26 beyond the total outside body width is not a violation of this  
27 section.

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

6           (7) The director of the state transportation department, a  
7 county road commission, or a local authority may designate a  
8 highway under the agency's jurisdiction as a highway on which a  
9 person may operate a vehicle or vehicle combination that is not  
10 more than 102 inches in width, including load, the operation of  
11 which would otherwise be prohibited by this section. The agency  
12 making the designation may require that the owner or lessee of the  
13 vehicle or of each vehicle in the vehicle combination secure a  
14 permit before operating the vehicle or vehicle combination. This  
15 subsection does not restrict the issuance of a special permit under  
16 section 725 for the operation of a vehicle or vehicle combination.  
17 This subsection does not permit the operation of a vehicle or  
18 vehicle combination described in section 722a carrying a load  
19 described in that section if the operation would otherwise result  
20 in a violation of that section.

21           (8) The director of the state transportation department, a  
22 county road commission, or a local authority may issue a special  
23 permit under section 725 to a person operating a vehicle or vehicle  
24 combination if all of the following are met:

25           (a) The vehicle or vehicle combination, including load, is not  
26 more than 106 inches in width.

27           (b) The vehicle or vehicle combination is used solely to move

1 new motor vehicles or parts or components of new motor vehicles  
2 between facilities that meet all of the following:

3 (i) New motor vehicles or parts or components of new motor  
4 vehicles are manufactured or assembled in the facilities.

5 (ii) The facilities are located within 10 miles of each other.

6 (iii) The facilities are located within the city limits of the  
7 same city and the city is located in a county that has a population  
8 of more than 400,000 and less than 500,000 according to the most  
9 recent federal decennial census.

10 (c) The special permit and any renewals are each issued for a  
11 term of 1 year or less.

12 (9) A person may move or operate a boat lift of any width or  
13 an oversized hydraulic boat trailer owned and operated by a marina  
14 or watercraft dealer in a commercial boat storage operation on a  
15 highway under a multiple trip permit issued on an annual basis as  
16 specified under section 725. The operation or movement of the boat  
17 lift or trailer shall minimize the interruption of traffic flow. It  
18 shall be used exclusively to transport a boat between a place of  
19 storage and a marina or in and around a marina. A boat lift or  
20 oversized hydraulic boat trailer may be operated, drawn, or towed  
21 on a street or highway only when transporting a vessel between a  
22 body of water and a place of storage or when traveling empty to or  
23 from transporting a vessel. A boat lift shall not be operated on  
24 limited access highways. A person moving or operating a boat lift  
25 or oversized hydraulic boat trailer shall follow all traffic  
26 regulations and shall ensure the route selected has adequate power  
27 and utility wire height clearance.

1           (10) A person who violates this section is responsible for a  
2 civil infraction. The owner of the vehicle may be charged with a  
3 violation of this section.