

# Legislative Analysis

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## PILOT PROGRAM FOR VEHICLE GROUP DESIGNATION TESTING

Phone: (517) 373-8080  
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

**House Bill 5656 as introduced**  
**Sponsor: Rep. Marilyn Lane**

Analysis available at  
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

**House Bill 5657 as introduced**  
**Sponsor: Rep. Peter Pettalia**

**Committee: Transportation and Infrastructure**  
**Complete to 5-23-16**

### SUMMARY:

#### House Bill 5656

The bill would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code by adding a new Section 312j to require the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) to establish a pilot program that provides for the *vehicle group designation testing* of an individual who is the holder of a valid commercial license permit issued by a state *other than Michigan*. (Proposed MCL 257.312j)

An individual who holds a valid commercial license permit issued by another state would not be eligible for *vehicle group designation testing* in this state unless the following are satisfied:

- The individual has successfully completed a truck driver training curriculum that has been approved by the MDOT and provided by a person approved to provide truck driver training as described under the Driver Education Provider and Instructor Act (MCL 256.621 et al.)
- The state that issued the commercial license permit is a participant in an electronic national commercial driver examination reporting system in which this state is also a participant as of the bill's effective date.

The pilot program would continue until MDOT adopts official commercial driver license curriculum requirements for a person providing education to individuals seeking to obtain a vehicle group designation to qualify to provide the testing required for those individuals.

[Generally speaking, before operating a commercial motor vehicle, a driver must obtain a commercial driver license with the required vehicle group designation. There are three group designations, based on weight and other vehicle characteristics, and there are also a number of endorsements required, based on the number of passengers or the kind of cargo involved. For a description of the categories, see:

[http://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1627\\_8669\\_53324-213070--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1627_8669_53324-213070--,00.html)]

#### House Bill 5657

Under the Driver Education Provider and Instructor Act, a driver education provider must verify that the student has a valid temporary instruction permit issued by the Secretary of State before providing behind-the-wheel driver education course instruction to an adult or truck driver training student.

House Bill 5657 would amend the act to say that a valid commercial learner's permit issued to a truck driver training student by a state other than Michigan would satisfy the requirement of that requirement. (MCL 256.675)

House Bill 5657 is tie-barred to House Bill 5656 meaning it would not take effect unless House Bill 5656 is enacted. Both bills would take effect 90 days after enactment.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

HB 5657 would have no fiscal impact on the Department of State or local governments.

HB 5656 would result in a minimal fiscal impact on the Department of State. There would be a slight increase of costs for the department, resulting from crafting and running the pilot program until the permanent requirements would be in place. The increased costs should be covered under current funding levels.

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.