

SENATE BILL No. 847

March 8, 2016, Introduced by Senators ZORN, BIEDA, BOOHER, HORN, HERTEL, BRANDENBURG, EMMONS, COLBECK and SCHMIDT and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled "Michigan vehicle code," by amending section 224 (MCL 257.224), as amended by 2013 PA 179.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 224. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this act
2 regarding tabs or stickers, upon registering a vehicle, the
3 secretary of state shall issue to the owner 1 registration plate.

4 (2) A registration plate shall display the registration number
5 assigned to the vehicle for which the registration plate is issued;
6 the name of this state, which may be abbreviated; and when the
7 registration plate expires, which may be shown by a tab or sticker
8 furnished by the secretary of state.

9 (3) A registration plate issued for motor vehicles owned and
10 operated by this state; a state institution; a municipality; a
11 privately incorporated, nonprofit volunteer fire department; or a

1 nonpublic, nonprofit college or university of this state shall not
2 expire at any particular time but shall be renewed when the
3 registration plate is worn out or is illegible. This registration
4 plate shall be assigned upon proper application and payment of the
5 applicable fee and may be used on any eligible vehicle titled to
6 the applicant if a written record is kept of the vehicles upon
7 which the registration plate is used. The written record shall
8 state the time the registration plate is used on a particular
9 vehicle. The record shall be open to inspection by a law
10 enforcement officer or a representative of the secretary of state.

11 (4) A registration plate issued for a vehicle owned by the
12 civil air patrol as organized under 36 USC ~~201-40301~~ to ~~208-40307~~;
13 a vehicle owned by a nonprofit organization and used to transport
14 equipment for providing dialysis treatment to children at camp; an
15 emergency support vehicle used exclusively for emergencies and
16 owned and operated by a federally recognized nonprofit charitable
17 organization; a vehicle owned and operated by a nonprofit veterans
18 center; a motor vehicle having a truck chassis and a locomotive or
19 ship's body which is owned by a nonprofit veterans organization and
20 used exclusively in parades and civic events; a vehicle owned and
21 operated by a nonprofit recycling center or a federally recognized
22 nonprofit conservation organization until December 31, 2000; a
23 motor vehicle owned and operated by a senior citizen center; and a
24 registration plate issued for buses including station wagons,
25 carryalls, or similarly constructed vehicles owned and operated by
26 a nonprofit parents' transportation corporation used for school
27 purposes, parochial school, society, church Sunday school, or other

1 grammar school, or by a nonprofit youth organization or nonprofit
2 rehabilitation facility shall be issued upon proper application and
3 payment of the applicable tax provided in section 801(1)(g) or (h)
4 to the applicant for the vehicle identified in the application. The
5 vehicle shall be used exclusively for activities of the school or
6 organization and shall be designated by proper signs showing the
7 school or organization operating the vehicle. The registration
8 plate shall expire on December 31 in the fifth year following the
9 date of issuance. The registration plate may be transferred to
10 another vehicle upon proper application and payment of a \$10.00
11 transfer fee.

12 (5) The department shall offer a standard design registration
13 plate that complies with the requirements of this act. The standard
14 design registration plate shall be of a common color scheme and
15 design that is made of fully reflectorized material and shall be
16 clearly visible at night. **THE STANDARD DESIGN REGISTRATION PLATE**
17 **DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION SHALL HAVE THE PHRASE "GREAT LAKES**
18 **STATE" INSCRIBED BENEATH THE REGISTRATION NUMBERS.**

19 (6) The department may use the Pure Michigan brand or a
20 successor or similar brand that is used in conjunction with this
21 state's promotion, travel, and tourism campaigns or marketing
22 efforts as part of the standard design for registration plates.

23 (7) The registration plate and the required letters and
24 numerals on the registration plate shall be of sufficient size to
25 be plainly readable from a distance of 100 feet during daylight.
26 The secretary of state may issue a tab or tabs designating the
27 month and year of expiration.

1 (8) The secretary of state shall issue for every passenger
2 motor vehicle rented without a driver the same type of registration
3 plate as the type of registration plate issued for private
4 passenger vehicles.

5 (9) A person shall not operate a vehicle on the public
6 highways or streets of this state displaying a registration plate
7 other than the registration plate issued for the vehicle by the
8 secretary of state, except as provided in this chapter for
9 nonresidents, or by assignment as provided in subsection (3).

10 (10) The registration plate displayed on a vehicle registered
11 on the basis of elected gross weight shall indicate the elected
12 gross weight for which the vehicle is registered.

13 (11) Beginning on January 1, 2015, a registration plate issued
14 by the department under this section shall not be renewed 10 years
15 after the date that registration plate was issued. The owner of a
16 vehicle whose registration plate is no longer eligible for renewal
17 under this subsection shall obtain a replacement registration plate
18 upon payment of the fee required under section 804. For any
19 alphanumeric series that the department has retired from
20 circulation, upon request of the owner of a vehicle whose
21 registration plate is no longer eligible for renewal under this
22 subsection, the department may issue a new registration plate with
23 the same registration number as was displayed on the expired
24 registration plate as provided under section 803b.

25 (12) The secretary of state, in conjunction with the
26 department of corrections, the Michigan state police, the Michigan
27 sheriffs' association, 1 individual appointed by the speaker of the

1 house of representatives, and 1 individual appointed by the senate
2 majority leader, shall prepare a report analyzing the viability of
3 moving from the current registration plate production process to a
4 digital printing of registration plates. The secretary of state
5 shall submit the report to the standing committees of the senate
6 and house of representatives with primary responsibility for
7 transportation issues no later than December 31, 2013.

8 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days
9 after the date it is enacted into law.

10 Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect
11 unless Senate Bill No. 845

12 of the 98th Legislature is enacted into law.