

## ANNUAL TRIP VEHICLE PERMIT

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**House Bill 4644 (reported from committee as H-4)**  
**Sponsor: Rep. Triston Cole**  
**Committee: Transportation and Infrastructure**  
**Complete to 6-20-17**

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

## SUMMARY:

Under the Michigan Vehicle Code (at MCL 257.725), upon receipt of a written application and good cause being shown, a jurisdictional authority may issue a written special permit authorizing an applicant to operate upon or remove from a highway a vehicle or combination of vehicles that are of a size, weight, or load exceeding the maximum specified in the code or otherwise not in conformity with the code.

House Bill 4644 would:

- Amend Section 725 of the Michigan Vehicle Code to require a jurisdictional authority to allow an applicant to obtain an annual multiple-trip permit for a power unit without requiring a separate permit for each individual piece of equipment carried by that power unit.
- Increase MDOT fees for multiple-trip/annual-basis permits for vehicles exceeding standard vehicle size restrictions but not maximum weight/load limits from \$30 to \$264.

[The bill as introduced would have also increased the permit fee for vehicles exceeding maximum weight/load limits; this increase is not included in the committee substitute.]

As defined in Section 725, "jurisdictional authority" means the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), a county road commission, or a "local authority" (i.e. city or village) having jurisdiction over the highway upon which a vehicle is proposed to be moved under the permitting provisions of Section 725. For the balance of this analysis, we will refer to jurisdictional authorities other than MDOT as local road agencies.

The bill is described in more detail below.

### ***Power Unit Permits***

House Bill 4644 would amend Section 725 of the Michigan Vehicle Code to require MDOT to allow an applicant to obtain an annual permit to exceed the size and load maximum specified for a power unit without requiring a separate permit for each individual piece of equipment carried by that power unit.

The bill specifies all of the following would apply to an annual permit:

- The permit could be stored and presented by the holder using a mobile device.
- The permit could not contain any restrictions on daily operating hours and would only include Memorial Day weekend, Fourth of July, and Labor Day weekend as restricted holidays. The permit could not restrict travel on weekends. The permit could contain restrictions on travel when the permit holder is traveling within a county with a population greater than 150,000. In addition, the restricted holidays would not apply to a permit issued for a vehicle used to transport husbandry.
- The permit would not require travel of more than 10 miles per hour below the posted speed limit.

### ***Permit Fees***

Section 725 currently establishes fees associated with issuing permits for vehicles exceeding standard size/weight/load limits. The fees vary depending on whether issued for a single trip or for multiple trips/annual basis; whether issued for vehicles exceeding standard weight/load limits or size limits only; and whether issued by MDOT or a local road agency.

With respect to vehicles that exceed standard weight or load limits, or which exceed both standard size limits and standard weight/load limits, Section 725 currently authorizes MDOT to charge a permit fee of \$50 for single trip permits, and \$100 for multiple trip/annual-basis permits.

With respect to vehicles that exceed standard size limits only, but not standard weight/load limits, Section 725 currently authorizes MDOT to charge a permit fee of \$15 for single trips permits, and \$30 for multiple-trip or annual-basis permits.

**House Bill 4644(H-4)** would retain MDOT single trip fees of \$50 for vehicles exceeding standard weight/load limits and \$15 for vehicles exceeding standard size limits only. The bill would increase the multiple-trip/annual-basis permit fee for vehicles exceeding standard size limits only from \$30 to \$264. However, unlike the bill as introduced, the committee substitute does not increase MDOT fees for multiple trip/annual basis permits for vehicles exceeding standard weight/load limits.

The bill would not change current provisions establishing maximum permit fees for local road agencies. See the chart on the following page

Oversize/Overweight Permit Fees (1) Section 725, Michigan Vehicle Code		
MDOT <sup>(2)</sup>	Current Law	House Bill 4644 (H-4)
Oversize/Overweight <sup>(3)</sup> Single Trip	\$50	No change
Oversize/Overweight Multiple/Annual	\$100	No change
Oversize Only Single Trip	\$15	No change
Oversize Only Multiple/Annual	\$30	\$264
Local Road Agencies <sup>(4)</sup>	Current Law	House Bill 4644
Oversize/Overweight Single Trip	\$50.00	No change
Oversize/Overweight Multiple/Annual	\$100.00	No change
Oversize Only Single Trip	Limited to Admin. cost <sup>(5)</sup>	No change
Oversize Only Multiple/Annual		
<p>(1). For purposes of this table, "Oversize" means vehicles in excess of standard size limit of the Michigan Vehicle Code; "Overweight" means vehicles in excess of standard weight or load limits of the Michigan Vehicle Code.</p> <p>(2) For permits issued by the Michigan Department of Transportation, Section 725 prescribes the permit fee amounts: "The fee charged ... shall be...."</p> <p>Section 725 allows the department to increase "oversize only" permit fees once a year, by no more than the percentage increase in the urban consumer price index.</p> <p>(3) "Oversize/Overweight" means vehicles that exceed standard weight/load limits or both standard weight/load limits and standard size limits.</p> <p>(4) For permits issued by local road agencies, Section 725 establishes permit fee maximums: "the fee charged ... shall be not more than...." Section 725 does not provide for fee increases by local road agencies.</p> <p>(5) Fees for permits related to movement of certain types of farm machinery are also limited to administrative cost.</p>		

## FISCAL IMPACT:

Fiscal analysis in progress.

## POSITIONS:

Michigan Farm Bureau supports the bill. (6-14-17)

Michigan State Police supports the bill. (6-14-17)

County Road Association is neutral on the bill. (6-15-17)

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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.