

**MICHIGAN VEHICLE CODE (EXCERPT)**  
**Act 300 of 1949**

**257.226a Temporary registration plates or markers.**

Sec. 226a. (1) Temporary registration plates or markers may be issued to licensed dealers in vehicles and to persons engaged in the sale of vessels required to be numbered by part 801 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.80101 to 324.80199, upon application accompanied by the proper fee, for use by purchasers or lessees of vehicles, for a period not to exceed 30 days pending receipt of regular registration plates from the dealer or person. Only 1 temporary plate or marker may be issued to a purchaser or lessee of a vehicle. If a dealer or person requires a purchaser or lessee of a vehicle or purchaser or lessee of a vessel to pay for a temporary plate or marker, the dealer or person shall not charge the purchaser or lessee more than the dealer or person was charged by the secretary of state for the individual plate or marker. The secretary of state shall determine the composition and design of the temporary registration plates or markers.

(2) A temporary registration plate or marker must show in ink the date of issue, a description of the vehicle for which issued, and any other information required by the secretary of state. A dealer or person shall immediately notify the secretary of state of each temporary registration plate or marker issued by the dealer or person, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state. When the regular plate is attached to a vehicle for which a temporary registration plate or marker was issued, the temporary plate must be destroyed.

(3) All temporary registration plates or markers must be serially numbered and upon issuance the number must be noted on the statement of vehicle sale form or in the case of a boat trailer on a form prescribed by the secretary of state.

(4) A dealer or person, upon demand, shall immediately surrender any temporary registration plates or markers in his or her possession if the secretary of state finds, after investigation, that the dealer or person has violated this section, and the dealer or person shall immediately forfeit any right to the temporary registration plates or markers.

(5) The secretary of state may issue a registration plate upon application and payment of the proper fee to an individual, partnership, corporation, or association who in the ordinary course of business has occasion to legally repossess a vehicle in which a security interest is held. A registration plate issued under this subsection must be used to move and dispose of a vehicle.

(6) The secretary of state may issue a registration plate upon application and payment of the proper fee to an individual, partnership, corporation, or association that in the ordinary course of business has occasion to legally pick up or deliver a vehicle not required to be titled under this act, to legally pick up or deliver a commercial motor vehicle being driven to a facility to undergo aftermarket modification, or to repair or service a vehicle, or to a dealer as defined in section 80102 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.80102 to deliver a vessel or trailer to a customer or to and from a boat show or exposition. A registration plate issued under this subsection must be used to move the vehicle.

(7) The secretary of state may issue a registration plate upon application and payment of the proper fee to an individual, partnership, corporation, or association that in the ordinary course of business operates an auto auction, and that in the ordinary course of business has occasion to legally pick up a vehicle that will be offered for sale at the auction, or deliver a vehicle that has been offered for sale at the auction. The registration plate must be used only to move vehicles as provided in this subsection. Auto auctions that apply for a registration plate under this subsection shall furnish a surety bond as required by the secretary of state.

**History:** Add. 1957, Act 33, Eff. Sept. 27, 1957;—Am. 1958, Act 55, Eff. July 1, 1958;—Am. 1962, Act 166, Eff. Mar. 28, 1963;—Am. 1968, Act 278, Imd. Eff. July 1, 1968;—Am. 1973, Act 150, Imd. Eff. Nov. 28, 1973;—Am. 1984, Act 227, Imd. Eff. July 30, 1984;—Am. 1989, Act 136, Imd. Eff. June 29, 1989;—Am. 1994, Act 183, Imd. Eff. June 20, 1994;—Am. 1996, Act 59, Imd. Eff. Feb. 26, 1996;—Am. 1998, Act 384, Eff. Jan. 1, 1999;—Am. 2002, Act 642, Eff. Jan. 1, 2003;—Am. 2006, Act 516, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006;—Am. 2022, Act 224, Eff. Jan. 23, 2023.