

**SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 6103**

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled
"Michigan vehicle code,"
by amending section 698 (MCL 257.698), as amended by 2018 PA 342.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 698. (1) A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more
2 than 2 side cowl or fender lamps that emit an amber or white light
3 without glare.

4 (2) A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than 1
5 running board courtesy lamp on each side that emits a white or
6 amber light without glare.

7 (3) Backing lights of red, amber, or white may be mounted on
8 the rear of a motor vehicle if the switch controlling the light is
9 so arranged that the light may be turned on only if the vehicle is
10 in reverse gear. The backing lights when unlighted shall be covered

1 or otherwise arranged so as not to reflect objectionable glare in
2 the eyes of an operator of a vehicle approaching from the rear.

3 (4) Unless ~~both covered and~~ **OR** unlit, a vehicle operated on
4 the highways of this state shall not be equipped with a lamp or a
5 part designed to be a reflector unless expressly required or
6 permitted by this chapter or that meets the standards prescribed in
7 49 CFR 571.108. A lamp or a part designed to be a reflector, if
8 visible from the front, shall display or reflect a white or amber
9 light; if visible from either side, shall display or reflect an
10 amber or red light; and if visible from the rear, shall display or
11 reflect a red light, except as otherwise provided by law.

12 (5) The use or possession of flashing, oscillating, or
13 rotating lights of any color is prohibited except as otherwise
14 provided by law, or under the following circumstances:

15 (a) A police vehicle shall be equipped with flashing,
16 rotating, or oscillating red or blue lights, for use in the
17 performance of police duties.

18 (b) A fire vehicle or ambulance available for public use or
19 for use of the United States, this state, or any unit of this
20 state, whether publicly or privately owned, shall be equipped with
21 flashing, rotating, or oscillating red lights and used as required
22 for safety.

23 (c) An authorized emergency vehicle may be equipped with
24 flashing, rotating, or oscillating red lights for use when
25 responding to an emergency call if when in use the flashing,
26 rotating, or oscillating red lights are clearly visible in a 360-
27 degree arc from a distance of 500 feet when in use. A person

1 operating lights under this subdivision at any time other than when
2 responding to an emergency call is guilty of a misdemeanor.

3 (d) Flashing, rotating, or oscillating amber or green lights,
4 placed in a position as to be visible throughout an arc of 360
5 degrees, shall be used by a state, county, or municipal vehicle
6 engaged in the removal of ice, snow, or other material from the
7 highway and in other operations designed to control ice and snow,
8 or engaged in other non-winter operations. This subdivision does
9 not prohibit the use of a flashing, rotating, or oscillating green
10 light by a fire service.

11 (e) A vehicle used for the cleanup of spills or a necessary
12 emergency response action taken pursuant to state or federal law or
13 a vehicle operated by an employee of the department of natural
14 resources or the department of environmental quality that responds
15 to a spill, emergency response action, complaint, or compliance
16 activity may be equipped with flashing, rotating, or oscillating
17 amber or green lights. The lights described in this subdivision
18 shall not be activated unless the vehicle is at the scene of a
19 spill, emergency response action, complaint, or compliance
20 activity. This subdivision does not prohibit the use of a flashing,
21 rotating, or oscillating green light by a fire service.

22 (f) A vehicle to perform public utility service, a vehicle
23 owned or leased by and licensed as a business for use in the
24 collection and hauling of refuse, an automobile service car or
25 wrecker, a vehicle of a peace officer, a vehicle operated by a
26 rural letter carrier or a person under contract to deliver
27 newspapers or other publications by motor route, a vehicle utilized

1 for snow or ice removal under section 682c, a private security
2 guard vehicle as authorized in subsection (7), a motor vehicle
3 while engaged in escorting or transporting an oversize load that
4 has been issued a permit by the state transportation department or
5 a local authority with respect to highways under its jurisdiction,
6 a vehicle owned by the National Guard or a United States military
7 vehicle while traveling under the appropriate recognized military
8 authority, a motor vehicle while towing an implement of husbandry,
9 or an implement of husbandry may be equipped with flashing,
10 rotating, or oscillating amber lights. However, a wrecker may be
11 equipped with flashing, rotating, or oscillating red lights that
12 shall be activated only when the wrecker is engaged in removing or
13 assisting a vehicle at the scene of a traffic accident or
14 disablement. The flashing, rotating, or oscillating amber lights
15 shall not be activated except when the warning produced by the
16 lights is required for public safety. A vehicle engaged in
17 authorized highway repair or maintenance may be equipped with
18 flashing, rotating, or oscillating amber or green lights. This
19 subdivision does not prohibit the operator of a vehicle utilized
20 for snow or ice removal under section 682c that is equipped with
21 flashing, rotating, or oscillating amber lights from activating the
22 flashing, rotating, or oscillating amber lights when that vehicle
23 is traveling between locations at which it is being utilized for
24 snow or ice removal.

25 (g) A vehicle engaged in leading or escorting a funeral
26 procession or any vehicle that is part of a funeral procession may
27 be equipped with flashing, rotating, or oscillating purple or amber

1 lights that shall not be activated except during a funeral
2 procession.

3 (h) An authorized emergency vehicle may display flashing,
4 rotating, or oscillating white lights in conjunction with an
5 authorized emergency light as prescribed in this section.

6 (i) A private motor vehicle of a physician responding to an
7 emergency call may be equipped with and the physician may use
8 flashing, rotating, or oscillating red lights mounted on the roof
9 section of the vehicle either as a permanent installation or by
10 means of magnets or suction cups and clearly visible in a 360-
11 degree arc from a distance of 500 feet when in use. The physician
12 shall first obtain written authorization from the county sheriff.

13 (j) A public transit vehicle may be equipped with a flashing,
14 oscillating, or rotating light mounted on the roof of the vehicle
15 approximately 6 feet from the rear of the vehicle that displays a
16 white light to the front, side, and rear of the vehicle, which
17 light may be actuated by the driver for use only in inclement
18 weather such as fog, rain, or snow, when boarding or discharging
19 passengers, from 1/2 hour before sunset until 1/2 hour after
20 sunrise, or when conditions hinder the visibility of the public
21 transit vehicle. As used in this subdivision, "public transit
22 vehicle" means a motor vehicle, other than a station wagon or
23 passenger van, with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than
24 10,000 pounds.

25 (k) A person engaged in the manufacture, sale, or repair of
26 flashing, rotating, or oscillating lights governed by this
27 subsection may possess the lights for the purpose of employment,

1 but shall not activate the lights upon the highway unless
2 authorized to do so under subsection (6).

3 (l) A vehicle used as part of a neighborhood watch program may
4 be equipped with flashing, rotating, or oscillating amber lights,
5 if the vehicle is clearly identified as a neighborhood watch
6 vehicle and the neighborhood watch program is working in
7 cooperation with local law enforcement. The lights described in
8 this subdivision shall not be activated when the vehicle is not
9 being used to perform neighborhood watch program duties.

10 (6) A person shall not sell, loan, or otherwise furnish a
11 flashing, rotating, or oscillating blue or red light designed
12 primarily for installation on an authorized emergency vehicle to a
13 person except a police officer, sheriff, deputy sheriff, authorized
14 physician, volunteer or paid fire fighter, volunteer ambulance
15 driver, licensed ambulance driver or attendant of this state, a
16 county or municipality within this state, a person engaged in the
17 business of operating an ambulance or wrecker service, or a
18 federally recognized nonprofit charitable organization that owns
19 and operates an emergency support vehicle used exclusively for
20 emergencies. This subsection does not prohibit an authorized
21 emergency vehicle, equipped with flashing, rotating, or oscillating
22 blue or red lights, from being operated by a person other than a
23 person described in this section if the person receives
24 authorization to operate the authorized emergency vehicle from a
25 police officer, sheriff, deputy sheriff, authorized physician,
26 volunteer or paid fire fighter, volunteer ambulance driver,
27 licensed ambulance driver or attendant, a person operating an

1 ambulance or wrecker service, or a federally recognized nonprofit
2 charitable organization that owns and operates an emergency support
3 vehicle used exclusively for emergencies, except that the
4 authorization shall not permit the person to operate lights as
5 described in subsection (5) (a), (b), (c), (i), or (j), or to
6 exercise the privileges described in section 603. A person who
7 operates an authorized emergency vehicle in violation of the terms
8 of an authorization is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by
9 imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than
10 \$100.00, or both.

11 (7) A private motor vehicle of a security guard agency or
12 alarm company licensed under the private security business and
13 security alarm act, 1968 PA 330, MCL 338.1051 to 338.1092, may
14 display flashing, rotating, or oscillating amber lights. The
15 flashing, rotating, or oscillating amber lights shall not be
16 activated on a public highway when a vehicle is in motion.

17 (8) This section does not prohibit, restrict, or limit the use
18 of lights authorized or required under sections 697, 697a, and
19 698a.

20 (9) A person who operates a vehicle in violation of subsection
21 (1), (2), (3), or (4) is responsible for a civil infraction.

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