

# HOUSE BILL NO. 5037

October 03, 2019, Introduced by Reps. Steven Johnson, Robinson, Reilly, Bellino, Yaroch and Wozniak and referred to the Committee on Transportation.

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled  
"Michigan vehicle code,"  
by amending section 224 (MCL 257.224), as amended by 2018 PA 656,  
and by adding section 224a.

**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



1 assigned to the vehicle for which the registration plate is issued;  
 2 the name of this state, which may be abbreviated; and when the  
 3 registration plate expires, which may be shown by a tab or sticker  
 4 furnished by the secretary of state.

5 (3) A registration plate issued for motor vehicles owned and  
 6 operated by this state; a state institution; a municipality; a  
 7 privately incorporated, nonprofit volunteer fire department; or a  
 8 nonpublic, nonprofit college or university of this state does not  
 9 expire at any particular time but must be renewed when the  
 10 registration plate is worn out or is illegible. This registration  
 11 plate must be assigned upon proper application and payment of the  
 12 applicable fee and may be used on any eligible vehicle titled to  
 13 the applicant if a written record is kept of the vehicles upon  
 14 which the registration plate is used. The written record ~~shall~~**must**  
 15 state the time the registration plate is used on a particular  
 16 vehicle. The record ~~shall be~~**is** open to inspection by a law  
 17 enforcement officer or a representative of the secretary of state.

18 (4) A registration plate issued for a vehicle owned by the  
 19 ~~civil air patrol~~**Civil Air Patrol** as organized under 36 USC 40301  
 20 to 40307; a vehicle owned by a nonprofit organization and used to  
 21 transport equipment for providing dialysis treatment to children at  
 22 camp; an emergency support vehicle used exclusively for emergencies  
 23 and owned and operated by a federally recognized nonprofit  
 24 charitable organization; a vehicle owned and operated by a  
 25 nonprofit food pantry or nonprofit food bank; a vehicle owned and  
 26 operated by a nonprofit veterans center; a motor vehicle having a  
 27 truck chassis and a locomotive or ship's body that is owned by a  
 28 nonprofit veterans organization and used exclusively in parades and  
 29 civic events; a vehicle owned and operated by a nonprofit recycling



1 center or a federally recognized nonprofit conservation  
 2 organization until December 31, 2000; a motor vehicle owned and  
 3 operated by a senior citizen center; and a registration plate  
 4 issued for buses including station wagons, carryalls, or similarly  
 5 constructed vehicles owned and operated by a nonprofit parents'  
 6 transportation corporation used for school purposes, parochial  
 7 school, society, church Sunday school, or other grammar school, or  
 8 by a nonprofit youth organization or nonprofit rehabilitation  
 9 facility ~~shall~~**must** be issued upon proper application and payment  
 10 of the applicable tax provided in section 801(1)(g) or (h) to the  
 11 applicant for the vehicle identified in the application. The  
 12 vehicle ~~shall~~**must** be used exclusively for activities of the school  
 13 or organization and ~~shall~~**must** be designated by proper signs  
 14 showing the school or organization operating the vehicle. The  
 15 registration plate expires on December 31 in the fifth year  
 16 following the date of issuance. The registration plate may be  
 17 transferred to another vehicle upon proper application and payment  
 18 of a \$10.00 transfer fee.

19 (5) The department shall offer a standard design registration  
 20 plate that complies with the requirements of this act. The standard  
 21 design registration plate ~~shall~~**must** be of a common color scheme  
 22 and design that is made of fully reflectorized material and ~~shall~~  
 23 **must** be clearly visible at night.

24 (6) No later than ~~1 year after the effective date of the~~  
 25 ~~amendatory act that amended this section,~~ **March 29, 2020**, the  
 26 department shall permit the registrant of a vehicle to display a  
 27 digital registration plate in lieu of the standard design  
 28 registration plate described in subsection (5). As used in this  
 29 subsection, "digital registration plate" means an electronic



1 display that is mounted on the rear of a vehicle in place of a  
2 registration plate issued by the secretary of state. ~~Any~~ **Except as**  
3 **otherwise provided in section 224a, any** data collected by the  
4 department or by a vendee selected by the department through the  
5 use of digital registration plates is the property of the  
6 department. ~~Any~~ **Except as otherwise provided in section 224a, any**  
7 use of data collected through the use of a digital registration  
8 plate is nonexclusive and is governed by this act.

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

13 (8) The registration plate and the required letters and  
14 numerals on the registration plate ~~shall~~ **must** be of sufficient size  
15 to be plainly readable from a distance of 100 feet during daylight.  
16 The secretary of state may issue a tab or tabs designating the  
17 month and year of expiration.

18 (9) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the  
19 secretary of state shall issue for every passenger motor vehicle  
20 rented without a driver the same type of registration plate as the  
21 type of registration plate issued for private passenger vehicles.  
22 This subsection does not apply to a special registration plate  
23 issued for a vehicle in a fleet under section 801h.

24 (10) A person shall not operate a vehicle on the public  
25 highways or streets of this state displaying a registration plate  
26 other than the registration plate issued for the vehicle by the  
27 secretary of state, except as provided in this chapter for  
28 nonresidents, or by assignment as provided in subsection (3).

29 (11) The registration plate displayed on a vehicle registered



1 on the basis of elected gross weight ~~shall~~**must** indicate the  
2 elected gross weight for which the vehicle is registered.

3 (12) Beginning on January 1, 2015, a registration plate issued  
4 by the department under this section ~~shall~~**must** not be renewed 10  
5 years after the date that registration plate was issued. The owner  
6 of a vehicle whose registration plate is no longer eligible for  
7 renewal under this subsection must obtain a replacement  
8 registration plate upon payment of the fee required under section  
9 804. For any alphanumeric series that the department has retired  
10 from circulation, upon request of the owner of a vehicle whose  
11 registration plate is no longer eligible for renewal under this  
12 subsection, the department may issue a new registration plate with  
13 the same registration number as was displayed on the expired  
14 registration plate as provided under section 803b.

15 **Sec. 224a. (1) GPS data is the property of the vehicle owner.**  
16 **A person other than the vehicle owner, including a state agency,**  
17 **shall not collect, access, or use GPS data without a court order, a**  
18 **valid search warrant, or the written consent of the vehicle owner.**

19 (2) The department shall not collect, access, or use GPS data  
20 as a condition of displaying a digital registration plate.

21 (3) As used in this section:

22 (a) "GPS data" means latitude and longitude coordinates and  
23 any other information regarding the location of a vehicle derived  
24 from a global positioning system and received, stored, or  
25 disseminated by a digital registration plate.

26 (b) "State agency" means an agency, authority, board, bureau,  
27 commission, department, division, instrumentality, office, or other  
28 unit of government of this state or a political subdivision of this  
29 state.



1           (c) "Vehicle owner" means the owner of the vehicle for which  
2 the digital registration plate is issued.

