

Legislative Analysis



HISTORIC VEHICLE PERSONALIZED LICENSE PLATE

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<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

Senate Bill 716 as passed by the House
Sponsor: Sen. Veronica Klinefelt
House Committee: Transportation, Mobility and Infrastructure
Senate Committee: Transportation and Infrastructure
Complete to 7-8-24

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

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 716 would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to allow the owner of a *historic vehicle* to apply get a personalized historic vehicle license plate upon paying a \$150 fee. Historic vehicle registrations are good for 10 years. The regular registration fee for a historic vehicle is \$30.

Historic vehicle means a vehicle that is over 25 years old and that is owned solely as a collector's item and for participation in club activities, exhibitions, tours, parades, and similar uses, including mechanical testing, but is not used for general transportation. However, the use of the vehicle from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day each year is considered an exhibition.

Hearing vs. opportunity to be heard

In addition, the code allows the secretary of state to revoke a historic vehicle's registration if the vehicle is unsafe to operate or used improperly or if the applicant for the registration fails to comply with specified registration and certification requirements. Currently, such a revocation must be for cause shown and after "a hearing." The bill would require that it be for cause shown and after "an opportunity to be heard."

The bill would take effect one year after it is enacted.

MCL 257.803a and 257.803b

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would result in a slight increase in revenue to the Michigan Transportation Fund (MTF) and a minor increase in costs for the Department of State.

An additional \$120 would be deposited into the MTF for every \$150 personalized historical registration plate fee that was chosen in lieu of the standard \$30 historical registration plate. As of 2021, there were approximately 38,000 unexpired historical registration plates in Michigan. Personalized license plate transaction were approximately 5.7% of all regular vehicle registration transactions in FY 2022-23.

The Department of State would incur minor additional costs related to producing the personalized plate, which require greater costs to produce.

MTF revenue is distributed primarily to local road agencies and certain targeted road programs. The MTF was projected to receive \$2.2 billion in FY 2023-24.

POSITIONS:

The Department of State indicated a neutral position on the bill. (6-4-24)

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