

HOUSE BILL NO. 6230

December 04, 2024, Introduced by Reps. Pohutsky and Tsernoglou and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, Environment, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation.

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled "Natural resources and environmental protection act," by amending section 80124 (MCL 324.80124), as amended by 2012 PA 294.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 80124. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section,
2 the owner of a vessel required, ~~pursuant to~~ **under** sections 80122
3 and 80123, to be numbered and to display a decal shall file an
4 application for a certificate of number with the secretary of
5 state. The secretary of state shall prescribe and furnish
6 certificate of title application forms. If a vessel requiring a

1 certificate of title under part 803 is sold by a dealer, that
2 dealer shall combine the application for a certificate of number
3 that is signed by the vessel owner with the application for a
4 certificate of title. The dealer shall obtain the certificate of
5 number in the name of the owner. The application for a certificate
6 of number ~~shall~~**must** include a certification. The owner of the
7 vessel shall sign the application or, if the application is filed
8 electronically, provide information requested by the secretary of
9 state to verify the owner's identity. A person shall not file an
10 application for a certificate of number that contains false
11 information. A dealer who fails to submit an application as
12 required by this section is guilty of a misdemeanor ~~and~~ punishable by
13 imprisonment for not more than 90 days, ~~or~~ a fine of not more than
14 \$100.00, or both.

15 (2) A dealer who submits an application for a certificate of
16 number as provided in subsection (1) may issue to the owner of the
17 vessel a 15-day permit, on forms prescribed by the secretary of
18 state, for the use of the vessel while the certificate of number is
19 being issued.

20 (3) A dealer may issue a 15-day permit, on a form prescribed
21 by the secretary of state, for the use of a vessel purchased in
22 this state and delivered to the purchaser for removal to a place
23 outside of this state, if the purchaser certifies by ~~his or her~~**the**
24 **purchaser's** signature that the vessel will be registered and
25 primarily used and stored outside of this state and will not be
26 returned to this state by the purchaser for use or storage. A
27 certificate of number ~~shall~~**must** not be issued for a vessel holding
28 a permit under this subsection.

29 (4) A **dealer shall not renew or extend a** 15-day permit issued

1 under subsection (2) or (3). ~~shall not be renewed or extended.~~

2 (5) A person shall operate or permit the operation of a vessel
3 for which a 15-day permit has been issued under this section only
4 if the permit is valid and displayed on the vessel as prescribed by
5 rule promulgated by the department under this part.

6 (6) Except as otherwise provided in this section, **beginning**
7 **January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027**, an applicant shall pay
8 the following fee at the time of application:

9 (a) A 15-day permit issued under subsection (3)..... \$ ~~10.00~~
10 **13.00**

11 (b) Nonpowered vessels, other than nonmotorized ~~9.00~~
12 canoes or kayaks..... **11.70**

13 (c) Nonmotorized canoes or kayaks..... ~~5.00~~
14 **6.50**

15 (d) Motorboats less than 12 feet in length..... ~~14.00~~
16 **18.20**

17 (e) Motorboats **or pontoon vessels** 12 feet or over
18 but less than 16 feet in ~~17.00~~
19 length..... **22.10**

20 (f) Motorboats **or pontoon vessels** 16 feet or over
21 but less than 21 feet in ~~42.00~~
22 length..... **54.60**

23 (g) Motorboats **or pontoon vessels** 21 feet or over
24 but less than 28 feet in ~~115.00~~
25 length..... **149.50**

26 (h) Motorboats **or pontoon vessels** 28 feet or over
27 but less than 35 feet in ~~168.00~~
28 length..... **218.40**

1	(i) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 35 feet or over	
2	but less than 42 feet in	244.00
3	length.....	317.20
4	(j) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 42 feet or over	
5	but less than 50 feet in	280.00
6	length.....	364.00
7	(k) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 50 feet in length	448.00
8	or over.....	582.40
9	(l) Pontoon vessels regardless of size.....	23.00
10	(l) (m) Motorized canoes regardless of	14.00
11	size.....	18.20
12	(m) (n) Vessels licensed under part	15.00
13	473.....	19.50
14	(n) (o) Vessels carrying passengers for hire that	
15	are in compliance with part 445, or under federal law; and	
16	vessels carrying passengers and freight or freight only	
17	and owned within this state or hailing from a port within	45.00
18	this state.....	58.50
19	(7) Except as otherwise provided in this section, beginning	
20	January 1, 2028 through December 31, 2030, an applicant shall pay	
21	the following fee at the time of application:	
22	(a) A 15-day permit issued under subsection (3)	\$ 14.95
23	(b) Nonpowered vessels, other than nonmotorized	
24	canoes or kayaks	13.46
25	(c) Nonmotorized canoes or kayaks	7.48
26	(d) Motorboats less than 12 feet in length	20.93
27	(e) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 12 feet or over	
28	but less than 16 feet in length	25.42

1	(f) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 16 feet or over	
2	but less than 21 feet in length	62.79
3	(g) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 21 feet or over	
4	but less than 28 feet in length	171.93
5	(h) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 28 feet or over	
6	but less than 35 feet in length	251.16
7	(i) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 35 feet or over	
8	but less than 42 feet in length	364.78
9	(j) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 42 feet or over	
10	but less than 50 feet in length	418.60
11	(k) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 50 feet in length	
12	or over	669.76
13	(l) Motorized canoes regardless of size	20.93
14	(m) Vessels licensed under part 473	22.43
15	(n) Vessels carrying passengers for hire that are in	
16	compliance with part 445, or under federal law; and	
17	vessels carrying passengers and freight or freight only	
18	and owned within this state or hailing from a port within	
19	this state	67.28
20	(8) Except as otherwise provided in this section, beginning	
21	January 1, 2031 through December 31, 2033, an applicant shall pay	
22	the following fee at the time of application:	
23	(a) A 15-day permit issued under subsection (3)	\$ 16.45
24	(b) Nonpowered vessels, other than nonmotorized	
25	canoes or kayaks	14.80
26	(c) Nonmotorized canoes or kayaks	8.22
27	(d) Motorboats less than 12 feet in length	23.02
28	(e) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 12 feet or over	
29	but less than 16 feet in length	27.96

1	(f) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 16 feet or over	
2	but less than 21 feet in length	69.07
3	(g) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 21 feet or over	
4	but less than 28 feet in length	189.12
5	(h) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 28 feet or over	
6	but less than 35 feet in length	276.28
7	(i) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 35 feet or over	
8	but less than 42 feet in length	401.26
9	(j) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 42 feet or over	
10	but less than 50 feet in length	460.46
11	(k) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 50 feet in length	
12	or over	736.74
13	(l) Motorized canoes regardless of size	23.02
14	(m) Vessels licensed under part 473	24.67
15	(n) Vessels carrying passengers for hire that are in	
16	compliance with part 445, or under federal law; and	
17	vessels carrying passengers and freight or freight only	
18	and owned within this state or hailing from a port within	
19	this state	74.00
20	(9) Except as otherwise provided in this section, beginning	
21	January 1, 2034, an applicant shall pay the following fee at the	
22	time of application:	
23	(a) A 15-day permit issued under subsection (3)	\$ 17.27
24	(b) Nonpowered vessels, other than nonmotorized	
25	canoes or kayaks	15.54
26	(c) Nonmotorized canoes or kayaks	8.63
27	(d) Motorboats less than 12 feet in length	24.17
28	(e) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 12 feet or over	
29	but less than 16 feet in length	29.35

1	(f) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 16 feet or over	
2	but less than 21 feet in length	72.52
3	(g) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 21 feet or over	
4	but less than 28 feet in length	198.57
5	(h) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 28 feet or over	
6	but less than 35 feet in length	290.09
7	(i) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 35 feet or over	
8	but less than 42 feet in length	421.32
9	(j) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 42 feet or over	
10	but less than 50 feet in length	483.48
11	(k) Motorboats or pontoon vessels 50 feet in length	
12	or over	773.57
13	(l) Motorized canoes regardless of size	24.17
14	(m) Vessels licensed under part 473	25.90
15	(n) Vessels carrying passengers for hire that are in	
16	compliance with part 445, or under federal law; and	
17	vessels carrying passengers and freight or freight only	
18	and owned within this state or hailing from a port within	
19	this state	77.70

20 ~~(7) As used in this section, "the length of a vessel" means~~
21 ~~the distance from end to end over the deck, excluding the~~
22 ~~longitudinal upward or downward curve of the deck, fore and aft.~~
23 ~~For a pontoon boat, length of a vessel means the length of its~~
24 ~~deck, fore and aft.~~

25 (10) ~~(8)~~ Payment of the fee specified in this section exempts
26 the vessel from the tax imposed under the general property tax act,
27 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.1 to 211.155.

28 (11) ~~(9) Upon receipt of~~ **If the secretary of state receives** an
29 initial application for a certificate of number in approved form

1 and payment of the required fee, the secretary of state shall enter
2 the information ~~upon~~**on** the official records and issue to the
3 applicant a certificate of number containing the number awarded to
4 the vessel, the name and address of the owner, and other
5 information that the secretary of state determines necessary. The
6 secretary of state shall issue a certificate of number that is
7 pocket size and legible. Except as provided in subsection ~~(13)~~,
8 **(15)**, a person operating a vessel shall present that vessel's
9 certificate of number to a peace officer ~~upon~~**if requested by** the
10 peace officer's request.**officer.**

11 **(12)** ~~(10)~~—If a check or draft payable to the secretary of
12 state under this part is not paid on its first presentation, the
13 fee or tax is delinquent as of the date the draft or check was
14 tendered. The ~~person~~**individual** tendering the check or draft
15 remains liable for the payment of the fee or tax and a penalty.

16 **(13)** ~~(11)~~ ~~Upon determining~~**If the secretary of state**
17 **determines** that a fee or tax required by this part has not been
18 paid and remains unpaid after reasonable notice and demand, the
19 secretary of state may suspend a certificate of number.

20 **(14)** ~~(12)~~—If a ~~person~~**an individual** who tenders a check or
21 draft described in subsection ~~(10)~~**(12)** fails to pay the fee or tax
22 for which the check or draft was tendered within 15 days after the
23 secretary of state gives ~~him or her~~**the individual** notice that the
24 check or draft described in subsection ~~(10)~~**(12)** was not paid on
25 its first presentation, the secretary of state shall assess and
26 collect a penalty of \$5.00 or 20% of the check or draft, whichever
27 is larger, in addition to the fee or tax.

28 **(15)** ~~(13)~~—The owner or authorized agent of the owner of a
29 vessel less than 26 feet in length that is leased or rented to a

1 person for noncommercial use for not more than 24 hours may retain,
2 at the place from which the vessel departs or returns to the
3 possession of the owner or the owner's representative, the
4 certificate of number for that vessel if a copy of the lease or
5 rental agreement is on the vessel. ~~Upon the demand of~~ **If requested**
6 **by** a peace officer, the operator shall produce for inspection
7 either the certificate of number or a copy of the lease or rental
8 agreement for that vessel. The lease or rental agreement ~~shall~~ **must**
9 contain each of the following:

10 (a) The vessel number that appears on the certificate of
11 number.

12 (b) The period of time for which the vessel is leased or
13 rented.

14 (c) The signature of the vessel's owner or that person's
15 authorized agent.

16 (d) The signature of the person leasing or renting the vessel.

17 **(16)** ~~(14) Upon receipt of~~ **When an owner receives** a certificate
18 of number for a vessel, the owner of that vessel shall paint on or
19 attach in a permanent manner to each side of the forward half of
20 the vessel the number identified in the certificate of number, in
21 the manner prescribed by rules promulgated by the department. The
22 secretary of state shall assign to the owner of vessels for rent or
23 lease a block of numbers sufficient to number consecutively all of
24 that owner's rental or lease vessels. The owner shall maintain the
25 numbers in a legible condition. A vessel documented by the United
26 States ~~east guard~~ **Coast Guard** or a federal agency that is the
27 successor to the United States ~~east guard~~ **Coast Guard** is not
28 required to display numbers under this part but shall display a
29 decal indicating payment of the fee prescribed in ~~subsection (6)~~,

1 **this section** and ~~shall~~ otherwise be in compliance with this part.
 2 This subsection does not apply to a nonpowered vessel 12 feet or
 3 less in length.

4 **(17)** ~~(15) Upon receipt of~~ **If the secretary of state receives**
 5 an application for a certificate of number in an approved form and
 6 payment of the fee required by this part, the secretary of state
 7 shall issue a decal that indicates that the vessel is numbered in
 8 compliance with this part. The decal ~~shall~~ **must** be color-coded and
 9 dated to identify the year of its expiration. The department shall
 10 promulgate a rule or rules to establish the manner in which the
 11 decal is to be displayed. A person ~~who~~ **that** operates a vessel in
 12 violation of a rule promulgated to implement this subsection is
 13 responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay
 14 a civil fine of not more than \$500.00.

15 **(18)** ~~(16)~~ A decal is valid for a 3-year period that begins on
 16 April 1 and expires on March 31 of the third year. An original
 17 certificate of number may be issued up to 90 days before April 1. A
 18 numbering renewal decal or other renewal device may be issued up to
 19 90 days before the expiration of a certificate.

20 **(19)** ~~(17) Upon receipt of~~ **If the secretary of state receives** a
 21 request for renewal of a decal and payment of the fee prescribed in
 22 ~~subsection (6),~~ **this section,** the secretary of state shall issue to
 23 the applicant a decal as provided in subsection ~~(15)~~ **(17)**. A
 24 person ~~who~~ **that** operates a vessel for which no decal was issued as
 25 required under this section or for which a decal has expired is
 26 responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay
 27 a civil fine of not more than \$500.00.

28 **(20)** ~~(18)~~ The numbering system adopted under this part ~~shall~~
 29 **must** be in accordance with the standard system of numbering

1 established by the secretary of the department in which the United
2 States ~~east guard~~ **Coast Guard** operates.

3 (21) ~~(19)~~—An agency of this state, a political subdivision of
4 this state, or a state supported college or university of this
5 state that owns a vessel that is required to be numbered under this
6 part shall register that vessel and ~~upon~~ **on** payment of either of
7 the following shall receive from the secretary of state a
8 certificate of number for that vessel:

9 (a) A fee of ~~\$3.00~~ **\$5.00** for a vessel that is not used for
10 recreational, commercial, or rental purposes.

11 (b) The fee required under ~~subsection (6)~~ **this section** for a
12 vessel that is used for recreational, commercial, or rental
13 purposes.

14 (22) ~~(20)~~—The secretary of state shall, ~~upon~~ **on** receipt of
15 payment of the fee required under subsection ~~(19)~~, **(21)**, issue a
16 certificate of number for each vessel subject to subsection
17 ~~(19)~~. **(21)**.

18 (23) ~~(21)~~—A vessel that is 30 years of age or older and not
19 used other than in club activities, exhibitions, tours, parades,
20 and other similar activities is a historic vessel. The secretary of
21 state shall make available to the public application forms for
22 certificates of number for historic vessels and, ~~upon~~ **on** receipt of
23 a completed application form and fee, shall number a historic
24 vessel as a historic vessel. The fee for the numbering of a
25 historic vessel is 1/3 of the otherwise applicable fee specified in
26 ~~subsection (6)~~. **this section**.

27 (24) ~~(22)~~—The secretary of state shall refund to the owner of
28 a vessel registered under this part all of the registration fee
29 paid for that vessel under this section if all of the following

1 conditions are met during the period for which the registration fee
2 was paid:

3 (a) The owner transfers or assigns title or interest in the
4 registered vessel before placing the decal issued under subsection
5 ~~(15)~~ **(17)** on the vessel.

6 (b) The owner surrenders the unused decal to the secretary of
7 state within 30 days after the date of transfer or assignment.

8 **(25)** ~~(23)~~—The secretary of state shall refund to the surviving
9 spouse of a deceased vessel owner the registration fee paid under
10 this part, prorated on a monthly basis, ~~upon~~ **on** receipt of the
11 decal issued under subsection ~~(15)~~ **(17)** or evidence satisfactory to
12 the secretary of state that the decal issued under subsection ~~(15)~~
13 **(17)** has been destroyed or voided.

14 **(26)** ~~(24)~~—If the secretary of state computes a fee under this
15 part that results in a figure other than a whole dollar amount, the
16 secretary of state shall round the figure to the nearest whole
17 dollar.

18 **(27) Beginning on January 1, 2037 and every 3 years**
19 **thereafter, the state treasurer shall adjust the amounts set forth**
20 **in subsections (9) and (21) by an amount determined by the state**
21 **treasurer to reflect the cumulative percentage change in the**
22 **Consumer Price Index from October 1, 2025 to the October 1**
23 **immediately preceding that calendar year, using the most recent**
24 **data available and rounded to the nearest dollar.**

25 **(28) As used in this section, "the length of a vessel" means**
26 **the distance from end to end over the deck, excluding the**
27 **longitudinal upward or downward curve of the deck, fore and aft.**
28 **For a pontoon boat, the length of a vessel means the length of its**
29 **deck, fore and aft.**