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BILL ANALYSIS

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Senate Bill 1257 (as introduced 5-9-06)
Sponsor: Senator Alan Sanborn
Committee: Transportation

Date Completed: 9-8-06

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to eliminate a restriction on the number of miles a wrecker transporting a disabled vehicle may travel while exceeding the Code's size and weight limitations, and increase the number of miles a wrecker transporting a combination of disabled vehicles may travel in excess of the size and weight limitations.

Under the Code, it is a misdemeanor to drive or move on a highway a vehicle or vehicles exceeding prescribed size and weight limitations. The Code's size, weight, and load restrictions, however, do not apply to a wrecker and a disabled vehicle, or a wrecker and a combination of a disabled vehicle and a trailer, if the wrecker is issued an extended restricted permit under Section 725 by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), if each trip beginning from the place where the vehicle or combination of vehicles originally was disabled is a maximum of 25 miles. In the case of a trip that begins and ends north of a line between Ludington and Pinconning, the maximum distance is 50 miles.

(Under Section 725, if MDOT receives a written application and good cause is shown, the Department may issue a written special permit authorizing an applicant to operate upon or remove from a highway under MDOT's jurisdiction a vehicle or combination of vehicles that are of a size, weight, or load exceeding the specified maximums, or otherwise not in conformity with the Code.)

The bill would increase the maximum distances to 50 miles and, for a trip beginning and ending north of a line between Ludington and Pinconning, 100 miles. Also, this provision would apply only to a combination of disabled vehicles. The bill would eliminate the distance restriction for a single disabled vehicle; the wrecker still would have to be issued an extended restricted permit by MDOT for the transport of that vehicle.

MCL 257.716

Legislative Analyst: Julie Cassidy

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

Fiscal Analyst: Debra Hollon

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