

SENATE BILL NO. 563

September 18, 2025, Introduced by Senator ANTHONY and referred to Committee on Appropriations.

A bill to amend 1945 PA 327, entitled
"Aeronautics code of the state of Michigan,"
by amending section 77 (MCL 259.77), as amended by 1996 PA 370.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 77. (1) If an aircraft is registered under this act, the
2 commission shall send an application for renewal registration to
3 the owner of the aircraft on or after November 1 preceding the year
4 to be designated on the registration. The registration application
5 ~~shall~~**must** be executed and returned to the commission with payment
6 of the registration fee as provided by this section before the
7 expiration date of the prior registration. If an owner of an

1 aircraft fails to receive a registration application form by
2 December 1, ~~he or she~~ **the owner** shall inform the commission.

3 (2) The owner of an aircraft that had not been previously
4 subject to registration under this act but has become subject to
5 registration under this act shall inform the commission within 30
6 days after becoming subject to registration, shall register the
7 aircraft, and shall pay the appropriate fee as provided by this
8 section.

9 (3) A registration fee ~~shall be~~ **is** payable annually on or
10 before December 31. However, for an aircraft being registered for
11 the first time, a registration certificate issued after July 1
12 ~~shall~~ **must** be issued at the rate of 50% of the annual fee. All
13 aircraft registrations ~~shall~~ expire on January 1 of each year.

14 (4) A registration fee ~~shall be~~ **is** in lieu of all property
15 taxes on the aircraft, either general or local.

16 (5) A registration fee ~~shall~~ **must** be paid at the rate of 1
17 cent per pound of either maximum gross weight or maximum takeoff
18 weight, whichever is greater, for which the aircraft is certified
19 under the ~~federal aviation administration~~ **Federal Aviation**
20 **Administration** airworthiness certificate.

21 (6) If an aircraft owner fails to register or pay the aircraft
22 registration fee due under this act by the time specified, a
23 penalty of \$50.00 ~~shall~~ **must** be added if the failure is **for** not
24 more than 1 month, with an additional \$5.00 penalty for each
25 additional month or fraction of a month during which the
26 registration fee and penalty are not paid.

27 (7) If an aircraft registration fee is not paid within the
28 time specified and it is shown to the satisfaction of the
29 commission that the failure or refusal was due to reasonable cause

1 and not willful neglect, the penalty may be waived at the
2 discretion of the director of the state transportation department
3 or ~~his or her designated representative.~~ **the director's designee.**
4 The period for which a penalty is assessed ~~shall~~ **must** not exceed 1
5 year.

6 (8) If an aircraft registration fee is paid by mail, the
7 postmark date is the date of payment.