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3 Title: Approval for Use of Tinted Windows in Motor Vehicles
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5 Introduced by: Jerome I. Finkelstein, MD, for Michigan Society of Eye Physicians & Surgeons
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7 Original Author: Jerome I. Finkelstein, MD
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9 Referred to: Reference Committee B
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11 House Action: **APPROVED**
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14 Whereas, Michigan state law limits the tinting of motor vehicle windows to those windows that are to
15 the rear of the driver in addition to the top four inches only of the windshield and the side windows adjacent to
16 the driver or front passenger, including side wings that may be adjacent to or forward of the driver¹, and
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18 Whereas, Michigan state law limits the tinting of any motor vehicle window beyond solar reflectance of
19 35 percent in the visible light range, and
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21 Whereas, Michigan state law allows an exception for the above; thereby, allowing tinting of all windows
22 if a physician or optometrist determines it is a medical necessity for "a person who is light sensitive or
23 photosensitive," and
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25 Whereas, all patients with eye or skin conditions have sensitivity to UVA and UVB radiation, but only a
26 few conditions have sensitivity that extends into the visible light spectrum, and
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28 Whereas, all motor vehicle window glass blocks the majority of UVB radiation with variable blockage of
29 longer wave UVA radiation², and
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31 Whereas, law enforcement officers endorse the idea that window darkening creates more difficulty for
32 the driver to see pedestrians and other objects, particularly in low light conditions, and makes it difficult for the
33 officer to see into motor vehicles with completely darkened windows³, and
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35 Whereas, all eye conditions with photosensitivity can be managed with easily obtainable fully UVA/UVB
36 coated and tinted wraparound sunglasses, and
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38 Whereas, only a few dermatologic conditions result in photosensitivity which includes visible light;
39 therefore be it
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41 RESOLVED: That MSMS seek legislation to amend MCL 257.709(3)(E) such that the medical exception
42 provision be permitted only upon written documentation of medical necessity by a dermatologist and that the
43 degree of tinting be limited to that as stated in the law.
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46 WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE

Relevant MSMS Policy:

Tinted Windows on Motor Vehicles (pending final approval by 2018 MSMS HOD)
MSMS opposes the tinting of motor vehicle windows, except as medically indicated, beyond the legally
accepted limits. (Res55-17)

¹ MCL 257.709

² Almutawa, F., et. al. "Current status of photoprotection by window glass, automobile glass, window films, and sunglasses". Photodermatol Photoimmunol Photomed 2013; 29:65-72.

³ http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2016/06/ask_a_trooper_tinted_windows_1.html