

## Make Sure Your Mover Has A License!

### spotlight

If you are planning to hire a household goods moving company to move you within the state of Michigan, make sure the company you choose has a license from the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC). Recent changes in state law now require all **intrastate** household goods movers to have a license or “operating authority” from the MPSC. An intrastate mover is defined as one that operates only **within** the state. You can tell if an operator is licensed by looking for the required MPSC number and current year decal on the side of the truck’s cab.

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The new state law has a number of consumer protection provisions. Some of these include:

- You may now negotiate the cost you pay for local moves (under 40 miles). Getting the best price may require you to get more than one estimate.
- Moves over 40 miles are subject to regulated rates – but total cost may vary based on the number of additional services required.
- Carriers may be financially responsible for actual loss or damage to property caused during a move, subject to the provisions of the new law.

Remember, a mover is breaking the law if they are moving you and are unlicensed. This may cost you more than you bargained for!

For more information on rights and responsibilities when contracting to make a household goods move within Michigan, please contact the Michigan Public Service Commission, Motor Carrier Division at 517.241.6030.