

---

---

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTIONS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. To optimize the effectiveness of highway safety  
2 programs, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
3 recommends that each state have a program for periodic safety  
4 inspections of all registered motor vehicles. Motor vehicle  
5 safety inspections are intended to reduce the number of vehicles  
6 with existing or potential conditions that may contribute to  
7 crashes or increase the severity of crashes that do occur. The  
8 legislature agrees that oversight is needed to ensure motor  
9 vehicles are kept in good working order so as not to endanger  
10 the driver, any other occupant of the motor vehicle, or any  
11 other person upon the roadway.

12           In an August 2015 report entitled "*Vehicle Safety*  
13 *Inspections: Improved DOT Communication Could Better Inform*  
14 *State Programs*", the United States Government Accountability  
15 Office (GAO) found that only sixteen states currently require  
16 periodic motor vehicle safety inspections. Of those sixteen  
17 states, Hawaii is one of eleven that require inspections to be



1 conducted on an annual basis, while five states require  
2 inspections to be conducted on either a biennial or other basis.  
3 Further, sixteen of the thirty-four states with no motor vehicle  
4 safety inspection requirement once required these inspections  
5 but have since repealed such programs. GAO also notes that  
6 while officials in states with existing motor vehicle safety  
7 inspection programs contend that such programs improve vehicle  
8 safety conditions, data on crash rates in relation to these  
9 programs are insufficient or inconclusive. For example, GAO  
10 analyzed crash rates before and after the elimination of motor  
11 vehicle safety inspection programs and found that rates varied  
12 little from year to year, even after the elimination of the  
13 inspection programs.

14 The legislature further finds that the decreased  
15 availability of safety inspectors, compounded by the  
16 increasingly limited number of hours offered to the public to  
17 receive such services, has caused annual motor vehicle safety  
18 inspections to become an undue hardship on Hawaii's residents,  
19 particularly residents living in rural areas. Amending the  
20 vehicle motor vehicle safety inspection requirements from an  
21 annual to a biennial basis, while maintaining the rate of fees



1 charged per year, would enable the State to maintain high  
2 vehicle safety standards while addressing the needs of safety  
3 inspectors and Hawaii's drivers.

4 The purpose of this Act is to reduce the frequency of motor  
5 vehicle safety inspections for certain vehicles from every  
6 twelve months to every twenty-four months.

7 SECTION 2. Section 286-26, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
8 amended as follows:

9 1. By amending subsection (b) to read:

10 "(b) All other vehicles, including motorcycles, trailers,  
11 semitrailers, and pole trailers having a gross vehicle weight  
12 rating of 10,000 pounds or less, and antique motor vehicles as  
13 defined in section 249-1, except those in subsections (c) and  
14 (d), shall be certified as provided in subsection (e) every  
15 [~~twelve~~] twenty-four months [~~; provided that any vehicle to which~~  
16 ~~this subsection applies shall not require inspection within two~~  
17 ~~years of the date on which the vehicle was first sold]~~."

18 2. By amending subsection (e) to read:

19 "(e) Upon application for a certificate of inspection to  
20 be issued for a vehicle, an inspection as prescribed by the  
21 director under subsection (g) shall be conducted on the vehicle,



1 and if the vehicle is found to be in a safe operating condition,  
2 a certificate of inspection shall be issued upon payment of a  
3 fee to be determined by the director[-]; provided that the fee  
4 shall reflect the aggregate cost as if annual inspections were  
5 conducted over the two-year certification period. The  
6 certificate shall state the effective date, the termination  
7 date, the name of the issuing insurance carrier, and the policy  
8 number of the motor vehicle insurance identification card for  
9 the inspected motor vehicle as specified by section 431:10C-107  
10 or state the information contained in the proof of insurance  
11 card as specified by section 431:10G-106. A sticker, authorized  
12 by the director, shall be affixed to the vehicle at the time a  
13 certificate of inspection is issued. An inspection sticker  
14 which has been lost, stolen, or destroyed shall be replaced  
15 without reinspection by the inspection station that issued the  
16 original inspection sticker upon presentation of the vehicle's  
17 current certificate of inspection; provided that the current  
18 certificate of inspection and inspection sticker shall not have  
19 expired at the time the replacement is requested. The director  
20 shall adopt rules to determine the fee for replacement of lost,  
21 stolen, or destroyed inspection stickers."



# H.B. NO. 2578

1 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
 2 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
 3 begun before its effective date.

4 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
 5 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

6 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

7

INTRODUCED BY: Richard Lujan

Hakshuma  
Mark Ferris  
[Signature]  
[Signature]  
Gregory Tichy  
[Signature]  
[Signature]

JAN 26 2016



# H.B. NO. 2578

**Report Title:**

Motor Vehicles; Certificates of Inspection

**Description:**

Requires motor vehicle safety inspections to be conducted every two years rather than annually.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

