
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTIONS.

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

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

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



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6 since repealed the programs.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

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



1 biennial basis, while maintaining the rate of fees charged per
2 year, would enable the State to maintain high vehicle safety
3 standards while addressing the needs of 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 to read as follows:

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

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

18 (1) No vehicle shall require inspection until two years
19 [of] after the date on which the vehicle was first
20 sold[-];



1 (2) Any vehicle with a model year six years of age or
2 newer shall be certified every twenty-four months; and

3 (3) Any vehicle with a model year older than six years of
4 age shall be certified every twelve months.

5 For the purposes of this section, vehicle model year
6 shall be calculated from the last day in December of
7 the manufacturer's designated model year of the
8 vehicle."

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

10 "(e) Upon application for a certificate of inspection to
11 be issued for a vehicle or moped, an inspection as prescribed by
12 the director under subsection (g) shall be conducted on the
13 vehicle or moped, and if the vehicle or moped is found to be in
14 a safe operating condition, a certificate of inspection shall be
15 issued upon payment of a fee to be determined by the
16 director[-]; provided that the fee for a vehicle with a model
17 year six years of age or newer shall be twice that of the fee
18 charged for a vehicle with a model year older than six years of
19 age. The certificate shall state the effective date, the
20 termination date, the name of the issuing insurance carrier, and
21 the policy number of the motor vehicle insurance identification



1 card for the inspected motor vehicle as specified by section
 2 431:10C-107 or state the information contained in the proof of
 3 insurance card as specified by section 431:10G-106. A sticker,
 4 authorized by the director, shall be affixed to the vehicle or
 5 moped at the time a certificate of inspection is issued. An
 6 inspection sticker which has been lost, stolen, or destroyed
 7 shall be replaced without reinspection by the inspection station
 8 that issued the original inspection sticker upon presentation of
 9 the current certificate of inspection; provided that the current
 10 certificate of inspection and inspection sticker shall not have
 11 expired at the time the replacement is requested. The director
 12 shall adopt rules to determine the fee for replacement of lost,
 13 stolen, or destroyed inspection stickers."

14 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
 15 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

16 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.
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H.B. NO. 145

Report Title:

Motor Vehicle Inspection; Safety Checks; Biennial Inspection

Description:

Requires a two-year motor vehicle inspection safety check for vehicles six years of age or newer. Doubles the inspection fee for the two-year motor vehicle inspection safety check.

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