

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19

H.217

Introduced by Representatives Hill of Wolcott and Noyes of Wolcott

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Motor vehicles; safety inspections

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to eliminate the annual vehicle safety inspection for all vehicles except school buses.

An act relating to vehicle safety inspections

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 23 V.S.A § 1222 is amended to read:

§ 1222. INSPECTION OF REGISTERED VEHICLES

(a) Except for school buses, which shall be inspected as prescribed in section 1282 of this title, ~~and motor buses as defined in subdivision 4(17) of this title, which shall be inspected twice during the calendar year at six month intervals,~~ all motor vehicles registered in this State shall ~~be inspected once each year~~ annually have a visual and electronic examination of the on-board diagnostic (OBD) system where applicable. Any motor vehicle, ~~trailer, or semi-trailer~~ not currently inspected in this State shall be inspected within 15 days following the date of its registration in the State of Vermont.



1           A person shall not affix or cause to be affixed to a motor vehicle, ~~trailer, or~~  
2 ~~semi-trailer~~ a certification of inspection that was not assigned by an official  
3 inspection station to such motor vehicle, ~~trailer, or semi-trailer~~. No person  
4 shall reaffix or cause to be reaffixed an official sticker once removed; instead,  
5 replacement stickers shall be affixed as prescribed by the rules for replacement  
6 sticker agents. A person shall not knowingly operate a motor vehicle, ~~trailer,~~  
7 ~~or semi-trailer~~ to which a certification of inspection is affixed if the  
8 certification of inspection was not assigned by an official station to that  
9 vehicle, ~~trailer, or semi-trailer~~.

10       Sec. 3. 23 V.S.A. § 4(61) is amended to read:

11           (61) "Storage trailer" shall mean any regularly manufactured box type  
12 trailer ~~which~~ that has been removed from normal over-the-highway service and  
13 is used solely for the storage of commodities at a fixed site for extended  
14 periods of time. When a storage trailer is moved over the public highways, it  
15 shall not contain cargo weighing more than 2,000 pounds; and shall be  
16 properly equipped; and in good mechanical condition ~~and inspectable under the~~  
17 ~~provisions of section 1222 of this title, except that storage trailers need not~~  
18 ~~display an inspection sticker.~~

19       Sec. 4. 23 V.S.A. § 303(a) is amended to read:

20           (a) The Commissioner or his or her duly authorized agent shall register a  
21 motor vehicle, trailer, or semi-trailer when application therefor, on a form

1 prescribed by the Commissioner, showing such motor vehicle to be inspected,  
2 properly equipped, and in good mechanical condition, is filed with him or her,  
3 accompanied by the required registration fee and evidence of the applicant's  
4 ownership of the vehicle in such form as the Commissioner may reasonably  
5 require. Except for State or municipal vehicles, registrants and titled owners  
6 shall be identical.

7 Sec. 5. RULEMAKING; TRANSITION

8 (a)(1) As soon as practicable after the effective date of this section, and not  
9 later than May 1, 2019, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles (Commissioner)  
10 shall file with the Secretary of State a proposed amended rule governing motor  
11 vehicle inspections (C.V.R. 14-050-022) that:

12 (A) is consistent with the permissible scope of inspections under the  
13 amendments to 23 V.S.A. § 1222 in Sec. 1 of this act; and

14 (B) clarifies ambiguous language in the rule.

15 (2) The amended rule described in subdivision (1) of this subsection  
16 shall be adopted so as to take effect on July 1, 2020.

17 (b) In the proposed rule amendments, the Commissioner may direct  
18 inspection stations to identify advisory, recommended repairs that are not  
19 required for the motor vehicle to pass inspection.

1       (c) Nothing in this section or Sec. 1 of this act is intended to affect the  
2       emissions-related requirements of the rule governing motor vehicle  
3       inspections.

4       (d) On or before January 15, 2020, the Commissioner shall send a written  
5       report to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation with  
6       recommendations on how the Department of Motor Vehicles should regulate  
7       inspections and whether inspections of motor vehicles should be conducted by  
8       certified inspection stations.

9       Sec. 6. EFFECTIVE DATES

10       (a) This section and Secs. 4 (registration) and 5 (rulemaking) shall take  
11       effect on passage.

12       (b) Secs. 1 (inspections), 2 (prohibitions), and 3 (storage trailer definition)  
13       shall take effect on July 1, 2020.