
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6 since repealed the programs.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. Additionally, as
21 electric vehicles are more reliable and require less



1 maintenance, amending requirements for electric vehicles will
2 conform with current safety standards. Therefore, amending the
3 motor vehicle safety inspection requirements would enable the
4 State to maintain high vehicle safety standards while addressing
5 the needs of safety inspectors and drivers.

6 The purpose of this Act is to establish a three-year pilot
7 program to:

- 8 (1) Provide that no new vehicle needs a safety inspection
9 until three years after the date the vehicle was first
10 sold; and
- 11 (2) Require a two-year motor vehicle safety check for
12 electric vehicles.

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

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

16 "(b) All other vehicles, including motorcycles, mopeds,
17 trailers, semitrailers, and pole trailers having a gross vehicle
18 weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less, and antique motor
19 vehicles as defined in section 249-1, except those in
20 subsections (c) and (d), shall be certified as provided in
21 subsection (e) [~~every twelve months, provided that any vehicle~~]



1 ~~to which this subsection applies, except a moped, shall not~~
2 ~~require inspection within two years of the date on which the~~
3 ~~vehicle was first sold.]~~; provided that:

4 (1) No new vehicle shall require inspection until three
5 years after the date on which the vehicle was first
6 sold; and

7 (2) Any electric vehicle shall be certified every twenty-
8 four months."

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 any electric vehicle participating in
17 a road usage charge fee shall be based on a self-reported photo
18 odometer reading. The certificate shall state the effective
19 date, the termination date, the name of the issuing insurance
20 carrier, and the policy number of the motor vehicle insurance
21 identification card for the inspected motor vehicle as specified



1 by section 431:10C-107 or state the information contained in the
2 proof of insurance card as specified by section 431:10G-106. A
3 sticker, authorized by the director, shall be affixed to the
4 vehicle or moped at the time a certificate of inspection is
5 issued. An inspection sticker [~~which~~] that has been lost,
6 stolen, or destroyed shall be replaced without reinspection by
7 the inspection station that issued the original inspection
8 sticker upon presentation of the current certificate of
9 inspection; provided that the current certificate of inspection
10 and inspection sticker shall not have expired at the time the
11 replacement is requested. The director shall adopt rules to
12 determine the fee for replacement of lost, stolen, or destroyed
13 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, 2050, and
17 shall be repealed on June 30, 2026; provided that section
18 286-26, Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall be reenacted in the form
19 in which it read prior to the effective date of this Act.



Report Title:

Motor Vehicle Inspection; Safety Checks; Inspection Fee; Pilot Program

Description:

Establishes a three-year pilot program that provides that no new vehicle needs a safety inspection until three years after the date the vehicle was first sold; provides that electric vehicles shall require a safety inspection every twenty-four months; and provides that electric vehicles participating in a road usage charge fee shall pay a road usage charge fee based on a self-reported photo odometer reading. Effective 7/1/2050. Repeals 6/30/2026. (SD1)

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