
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5240

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Environment, Energy & Water (originally sponsored by Senators Regala, Swecker and Fraser; by request of Department of Ecology)

READ FIRST TIME 02/26/01.

1 AN ACT Relating to motor vehicle emission inspection fee
2 adjustments; and amending RCW 70.120.170.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 70.120.170 and 1998 c 342 s 4 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The department shall administer a system for emission
7 inspections of all motor vehicles, except those described in RCW
8 46.16.015(2), that are registered within the boundaries of each
9 emission contributing area. Under such system a motor vehicle shall be
10 inspected biennially except where an annual program would be required
11 to meet federal law and prevent federal sanctions. In addition, motor
12 vehicles shall be inspected at each change of registered owner of a
13 licensed vehicle as provided under RCW 46.16.015.

14 (2) The director shall:

15 (a) Adopt procedures for conducting emission inspections of motor
16 vehicles. The inspections may include idle and high revolution per
17 minute emission tests. The emission test for diesel vehicles shall
18 consist solely of a smoke opacity test.

1 (b) Adopt criteria for calibrating emission testing equipment.
2 Electronic equipment used to test for emissions standards provided for
3 in this chapter shall be properly calibrated. The department shall
4 examine frequently the calibration of the emission testing equipment
5 used at the stations.

6 (c) Authorize, through contracts, the establishment and operation
7 of inspection stations for conducting vehicle emission inspections
8 authorized in this chapter. No person contracted to inspect motor
9 vehicles may perform for compensation repairs on any vehicles. No
10 public body may establish or operate contracted inspection stations.
11 Any contracts must be let in accordance with the procedures established
12 for competitive bids in chapter 43.19 RCW.

13 (3) Subsection (2)(c) of this section does not apply to volunteer
14 motor vehicle inspections under RCW 70.120.020(1) if the inspections
15 are conducted for the following purposes:

16 (a) Auditing;

17 (b) Contractor evaluation;

18 (c) Collection of data for establishing calibration and performance
19 standards; or

20 (d) Public information and education.

21 (4)(a) The director shall establish by rule the fee to be charged
22 for emission inspections. The inspection fee shall be a standard fee
23 applicable statewide or throughout an emission contributing area and
24 shall be no greater than (~~fifteen~~) twenty-six dollars. Surplus
25 moneys collected from fees over the amount due the contractor shall be
26 paid to the state and deposited in the general fund. Fees shall be set
27 at the minimum whole dollar amount required to (i) compensate the
28 contractor or inspection facility owner, and (ii) offset the general
29 fund appropriation to the department to cover the administrative costs
30 of the motor vehicle emission inspection program. The portion of the
31 fee dedicated to covering the department's administrative costs may not
32 exceed three dollars and eighty cents per inspection.

33 (b) Before each inspection, a person whose motor vehicle is to be
34 inspected shall pay to the inspection station the fee established under
35 this section. The person whose motor vehicle is inspected shall
36 receive the results of the inspection. If the inspected vehicle
37 complies with the standards established by the director, the person
38 shall receive a dated certificate of compliance. If the inspected

1 vehicle does not comply with those standards, one reinspection of the
2 vehicle shall be afforded without charge.

3 (5) All units of local government and agencies of the state with
4 motor vehicles garaged or regularly operated in an emissions
5 contributing area shall test the emissions of those vehicles annually
6 to ensure that the vehicle's emissions comply with the emission
7 standards established by the director. All state agencies outside of
8 emission contributing areas with more than twenty motor vehicles housed
9 at a single facility or contiguous facilities shall test the emissions
10 of those vehicles annually to ensure that the vehicles' emissions
11 comply with standards established by the director. A report of the
12 results of the tests shall be submitted to the department.

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