



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 348

S.P. 131

In Senate, February 10, 2015

An Act To Provide for 2-year Motor Vehicle Inspection Stickers

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator DUTREMBLE of York.
Cosponsored by Representative CRAFTS of Lisbon and
Senators: COLLINS of York, DAVIS of Piscataquis, Representatives: COREY of Windham,
FECTEAU of Biddeford, MARTIN of Sinclair, SHORT of Pittsfield, VEROW of Brewer,
WOOD of Sabattus.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §1751, sub-§1**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 and
3 affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

4 **1. Inspection required.** Except as provided in this chapter or section 2307,
5 subsection 1, a motor vehicle required to be registered in this State must have an ~~annual~~
6 inspection every 2 years. A person may have a motor vehicle inspected more frequently.

7 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §1751, sub-§2-A**, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 786, §1, is
8 amended to read:

9 **2-A. Enhanced inspection.** Beginning January 1, 1999, a motor vehicle that is
10 required to be registered in Cumberland County and that is subject to inspection pursuant
11 to subsection 1 must have ~~an annual~~ a biennial enhanced inspection. The following
12 equipment is subject to inspection:

- 13 A. Equipment subject to inspection pursuant to subsection 2;
- 14 B. The fuel tank cap on 1974 and subsequent models of gasoline-powered vehicles;
15 and
- 16 C. The on-board diagnostic system on 1996 and subsequent models.

17 A motor vehicle that is not required to be registered in Cumberland County may have an
18 enhanced inspection under this subsection.

19 **Sec. 3. 29-A MRSA §1752, sub-§4, ¶B**, as amended by PL 2005, c. 314, §7, is
20 further amended to read:

21 B. Has a partial ~~annual~~ biennial inspection of the running gear, steering mechanism,
22 brakes, exhaust system and lights; safety glass under section 1915; and tires under
23 section 1917; and

24 **Sec. 4. 29-A MRSA §1752, sub-§7, ¶B**, as amended by PL 2005, c. 314, §8, is
25 further amended to read:

26 B. Has a partial ~~annual~~ biennial inspection consisting of the running gear, steering
27 mechanism, brakes, exhaust system and lights; safety glass under section 1915; and
28 tires under section 1917, subsection 3; and

29 **Sec. 5. 29-A MRSA §1752, sub-§8, ¶C**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 125, §2 and
30 amended by c. 397, §5, is further amended to read:

31 C. Has a partial ~~annual~~ biennial inspection of running gear, steering mechanism,
32 brakes and exhaust system and tires under section 1917, subsection 3;

33 **Sec. 6. 29-A MRSA §1753, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 348, §2, is
34 further amended to read:

35 **1. Inspection required.** Except as provided in subsection 4, a commercial motor
36 vehicle that is required to be registered in this State, is used in intrastate or interstate

1 commerce and has a gross vehicle weight or gross vehicle weight rating greater than
2 10,000 pounds, including the gross vehicle weight rating or gross weight of any trailer or
3 semitrailer, must be inspected ~~annually~~ biennially pursuant to this chapter. Except as
4 provided in subsection 4, a trailer or semitrailer that has a gross vehicle weight or gross
5 vehicle weight rating greater than 7,000 pounds, independent of the towing vehicle, must
6 be inspected ~~annually~~ biennially. A trailer or semitrailer must also be inspected ~~annually~~
7 biennially when:

8 A. Engaged in interstate commerce and used with a motor vehicle that has a gross
9 vehicle weight or gross vehicle weight rating greater than 10,000 pounds, including
10 the gross vehicle weight or gross vehicle weight rating of a trailer or semitrailer and
11 load; or

12 B. Except as provided in subsection 4, engaged in intrastate commerce and used with
13 a motor vehicle that has a gross vehicle weight or gross vehicle weight rating greater
14 than 10,000 pounds, including the gross vehicle weight or gross vehicle weight rating
15 of a trailer or semitrailer and load.

16 **Sec. 7. 29-A MRSA §1753, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 348, §§3 to 5, is
17 further amended to read:

18 **4. Vehicles exempt from biennial inspection.** The following vehicles are exempt
19 from the requirements of this section:

20 A. When used exclusively in intrastate commerce, a trailer or semitrailer with a
21 gross vehicle weight, including any load, that does not exceed 3,000 pounds;

22 B. When used exclusively in intrastate commerce, a semitrailer designed and used
23 exclusively for dispensing cable from reels attached to the semitrailer, commonly
24 called a reel trailer, and any semitrailer designed and used exclusively to support the
25 ends of poles being transported, commonly called a pole dolly, when the gross weight
26 of the semitrailer and load does not exceed 12,000 pounds;

27 C. Any mobile home, empty storage trailer or empty storage semitrailer displaying
28 a trailer transit plate in accordance with section 954, subsections 4 and 5;

29 D. A farm truck or a fish truck exempted under section 1752;

30 E. A trailer or semitrailer displaying a valid certificate of inspection from another
31 state or a federally approved commercial vehicle inspection program until the normal
32 expiration of its certificate of inspection; and

33 F. A camp trailer.

34 SUMMARY

35 This bill changes the law to require motor vehicle inspections every 2 years.