



H.B. 171

124th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Rep. Jolivette

BILL SUMMARY

- Exempts motor vehicles that are driven 1,000 miles or less per year from the motor vehicle inspection and maintenance program.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Introduction and background

In order to comply with requirements governing ambient air quality for ozone and carbon monoxide under the federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, the General Assembly enacted Am. Sub. S.B. 18 in 1993. The act requires the Director of Environmental Protection to implement and supervise a motor vehicle inspection and maintenance program in any area of the state classified as moderate, serious, severe, or extreme nonattainment for carbon monoxide or ozone. The Director also must implement and supervise such a program in a county located in an area so classified when the program is included in the air quality maintenance plan or contingency plan that is submitted to the United States Environmental Protection Agency as part of a request for redesignation as attainment. In addition, the act established a one-time "opt-in" provision through which local governments located in areas for which only a basic program was required could choose to have the Director implement and supervise an enhanced program in those areas.

As a result of the federal requirements, the enactment of Am. Sub. S.B. 18, and the "opt-in" provision, motorists in three areas of the state currently are required to have their motor vehicles tested under a biennial enhanced motor vehicle inspection and maintenance program. That program is operated by contractors and is commonly referred to as "E-Check" in the 14 counties in which it operates. Those counties are located in the Cleveland-Akron area, the Dayton-Springfield area, and the Cincinnati area.

Exemption from E-Check for vehicles driven 1,000 or less miles per year

Under the current E-Check program, certain classes of vehicles are exempt from emissions inspection requirements. For example, vehicles over 25 years old are exempt (sec. 3704.14(F)(3)(a)). The bill establishes a new exemption from the E-Check program for vehicles that are driven 1,000 miles or less per year. The Director of Environmental Protection is required to adopt rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act establishing procedures and requirements necessary to implement the exemption. (Sec. 3704.14(F)(3)(k).)

HISTORY

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