



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 138

February Session, 2000

Substitute Senate Bill No. 430

Senate, March 21, 2000

The Committee on Program Review and Investigations reported through SEN. FONFARA of the 1st Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

An Act Concerning The Recommendations Of The Program Review And Investigations Committee Concerning The State's Emission Inspection Program.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 14-164c of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (c) The commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with
4 chapter 54 to implement the provisions of this section. Such
5 regulations shall include provision for a periodic emissions inspection
6 and compliance or waiver with exhaust emission standards, air
7 pollution control system integrity standards and purge system
8 standards defined by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection
9 for all motor vehicles registered or which will be registered in this state
10 except: (1) Vehicles having a gross weight of more than ten thousand
11 pounds; (2) vehicles powered by electricity; (3) bicycles with motors

12 attached; (4) motorcycles; (5) vehicles operating with a temporary
13 registration; (6) vehicles manufactured twenty-five or more years ago;
14 (7) new vehicles at the time of initial registration; (8) vehicles
15 registered but not designed primarily for highway use; (9) farm
16 vehicles, as defined in subsection (q) of section 14-49; (10) antique, rare
17 or special interest motor vehicles, as defined in section 14-1, as
18 amended; (11) diesel-powered type II school buses; (12) a vehicle
19 operated by a licensed dealer or repairer either to or from a location of
20 the purchase or sale of such vehicle or for the purpose of obtaining an
21 official emissions or safety inspection. The commissioner may require
22 emissions inspection and compliance or waiver prior to completion of
23 the sale and registration of a motor vehicle over one year old. On and
24 after July 1, 2002, any agreement between the department and an
25 independent contractor, entered into pursuant to subsection (e) of this
26 section, shall include a waiver of a centralized, site-based physical
27 emission inspection for a vehicle manufactured four or less years ago.
28 If the Commissioner of Environmental Protection finds that it is
29 necessary to inspect motor vehicles which are exempt under
30 subdivision (1) of this subsection in order to achieve compliance with
31 federal law concerning emission reduction requirements, the
32 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may adopt regulations, in accordance
33 with the provisions of chapter 54, to require the inspection of
34 motorcycles or designated motor vehicles having a gross weight of
35 more than ten thousand pounds.

36 Sec. 2. On or before January 1, 2001, the Department of
37 Environmental Protection and the Department of Motor Vehicles shall
38 submit reports to the appropriate committees of cognizance and to the
39 Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee reflecting
40 the respective departments' plans and recommendations for achieving
41 the policy change reflected in section 1 of this act, including, but not
42 limited to, such factors as decentralized dealer-based inspections,
43 alternative technology, fees, physical facilities, vendor contracts and
44 compliance with federal laws.

PRI **Committee Vote:** Yea 12 Nay 0 JFS

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: Costs; and Potential Future Revenue Loss, Potential Future Cost Reduction, (Emissions Fund)

Affected Agencies: Departments of Motor Vehicles and Environmental Protection

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

State Impact:

Since the current contract with Environmental Systems Products, Inc. expires on June 30, 2002, a fiscal estimate to exempt motor vehicles manufactured four or less years ago from emissions inspections effective July 1, 2002 cannot specifically be provided. Costs and revenues, under a new contract, would depend on the cost per test payable to the contractor, the size of the network which could be reduced due to the reduction in volume, technological advances which could affect newer model vehicles as well as emissions inspections, federal and state requirements to meet the Clean Air Act standards, etc. However, if the terms of the new contract remain identical in every respect with the terms under the current contract, the revenue loss to the Emissions Enterprise Fund based on the number of vehicles which would be exempted could approximate \$6.4 million. It is

anticipated that the new contract would be negotiated to reflect lower costs.

The changes in the state's emissions inspection program will result in an increase in the workload of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) due to the revision of the state's regulations and the federal State Implementation Plan (SIP) to comply with the Clean Air Act. It is anticipated that three (3) employees will be required to work on these changes resulting in the diversion of resources away from other duties or a cost of approximately \$150,000.

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and the DEP will be able to prepare and submit reports to the appropriate legislative committees within available budgetary resources.

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 430

AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE CONCERNING THE STATE'S EMISSION INSPECTION PROGRAM**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires any new agreement the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) makes with an independent emissions inspection contractor on or after July 1, 2002 to include a waiver from any centralized, site-based physical emissions inspection for newer vehicles. The waiver must be in contracts made on or after July 1, 2002. It applies to vehicles manufactured "four or less years ago." The bill bases the waiver requirement on when a vehicle was manufactured rather than its model year. Thus, it appears that initial waivers must be provided to vehicles manufactured on and after July 1, 1998. The bill's language implies that waivers would be temporary rather than permanent, but it does not state it explicitly.

The bill requires the DMV and the Department of Environmental Protection to submit reports to legislative committees of cognizance and to the Program Review and Investigations Committee by January 1, 2001 that reflect their plans and recommendations for achieving the bill's waiver policy. These reports must, at least, address decentralized dealer-based inspections, alternative technology, fees, physical facilities, vendor contracts, and compliance with federal laws.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2000

BACKGROUND***The Current Emissions Inspection Program***

Under the current emissions inspection agreement, the contractor operates 25 inspection facilities throughout the state. The contract runs through June 30, 2002. Some inspection stations can also perform

safety inspections.

With some exceptions, gasoline powered motor vehicles of no more than 10,000 pounds gross weight must report for either annual or biennial inspections (depending on their model year) at an inspection facility. Some vehicle classes are exempt from inspection including motorcycles and bicycles with helper motors and vehicles that: (1) are electrically-powered; (2) have farm registrations; (3) have temporary registrations; (4) are new vehicles and being initially registered; (5) were manufactured at least 25 years ago; (6) are registered as antique, rare, or special interest vehicles; (7) are small, diesel-powered "Type II" school buses; (8) are registered but not designed primarily for highway use; or (9) are operated by a licensed dealer or repairer to or from a purchase location for the purpose of getting an emissions or safety inspection.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Program Review and Investigations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Report

Yea 12 Nay 0