



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

60 State Street, Wethersfield, CT 06161

<http://ct.gov/dmv>



### ***Testimony of Department of Motor Vehicles Commissioner Melody A. Currey***

***Transportation Committee Public Hearing***

***February 28, 2011***

#### **H.B. No. 5103 (COMM) AN ACT REQUIRING ANNUAL SAFETY INSPECTIONS FOR ALL MOTOR VEHICLES. (TRA)**

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) welcomes the opportunity to submit comments on HB 5103. This bill would require annual safety inspections for all motor vehicles registered in Connecticut. The DMV certainly wants to keep the State's roads safe from vehicles that should not be operating if that is the intent of this legislation.

The DMV does not believe, however, this proposal would necessarily make our roads any safer. Based upon historical data, there have been no discernable differences in accident rates and crash data between those states that have an annual vehicle safety inspection program and those that do that like Connecticut. Connecticut's own experience indicates that a more effective highway safety improvement strategy is the use of roadside, spot inspections in which vehicles are observed/inspected under actual operating conditions.

We are also concerned about the potential financial and workload burden created by an annual inspection of all motor vehicles. The DMV would need a considerable increase in funding in order to manage and implement such a program, even if DMV was able to utilize independent contractors, automotive repairers and motor vehicle dealers to assist with the inspections as outlined in this bill.

While the Department desires to keep the State's highways and roads safe, we feel this legislation will not achieve that goal. Given the expected significant costs to implement such a program, we respectfully oppose this bill.