

By: Morales of Maverick

H.B. No. 282

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to vehicle safety inspections for vehicles registered in certain counties; imposing a fee.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 382.0622(a), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Clean Air Act fees consist of:

(1) fees collected by the commission under Sections 382.062, 382.0621, 382.202, and 382.302 and as otherwise provided by law;

(2) \$2 from the portion of each fee collected for inspections of vehicles other than mopeds and remitted to the state under Sections 548.501 and 548.503, Transportation Code; ~~and~~

(3) \$6 from the portion of each fee collected for inspections of vehicles other than mopeds and remitted to the state under Section 548.5035, Transportation Code; and

(4) fees collected that are required under Section 185 of the federal Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. Section 7511d).

SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 548, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 548.010 to read as follows:

Sec. 548.010. INSPECTION IN ANY COUNTY PERMITTED FOR VEHICLES REGISTERED IN CERTAIN COUNTIES. Notwithstanding any other law, a vehicle inspected under Section 548.1025 may be inspected in any county.

1 SECTION 3. Section 548.101, Transportation Code, is amended
2 to read as follows:

3 Sec. 548.101. GENERAL ONE-YEAR INSPECTION PERIOD. Except
4 as provided by Sections [~~Section~~] 548.102 and 548.1025, the
5 department shall require an annual inspection. The department
6 shall set the periods of inspection and may make rules with respect
7 to those periods. The rules must provide that:

8 (1) a vehicle owner shall [~~may~~] obtain any required
9 inspections [~~an inspection~~] not earlier than 90 days before the
10 date of expiration of the vehicle's registration; and

11 (2) a used motor vehicle sold by a dealer, as defined
12 by Section 503.001, must be inspected in the 180 days preceding the
13 date the dealer sells the vehicle.

14 SECTION 4. Section 548.102(a), Transportation Code, is
15 amended to read as follows:

16 (a) Except as provided by Section 548.1025, the [~~The~~]
17 initial inspection period is two years for a passenger car or light
18 truck that:

19 (1) is sold in this state or purchased by a commercial
20 fleet buyer described by Section 501.0234(b)(4) for use in this
21 state;

22 (2) has not been previously registered in this or
23 another state; and

24 (3) on the date of sale is of the current or preceding
25 model year.

26 SECTION 5. Subchapter C, Chapter 548, Transportation Code,
27 is amended by adding Section 548.1025 to read as follows:

1 Sec. 548.1025. INSPECTION PERIOD FOR VEHICLES REGISTERED IN
2 CERTAIN COUNTIES. (a) This section applies only to a vehicle that
3 is registered in a county that has:

4 (1) a population of less than 10,000; and

5 (2) a total area of more than 2,000 square miles.

6 (b) The inspection period for a vehicle described by
7 Subsection (a) is three years.

8 (c) This section does not apply to the inspection period for
9 a:

10 (1) commercial motor vehicle inspection under
11 Subchapter D; or

12 (2) motor vehicle emissions inspection under
13 Subchapter F.

14 SECTION 6. Section 548.254, Transportation Code, is amended
15 to read as follows:

16 Sec. 548.254. VALIDITY OF VEHICLE INSPECTION REPORT. The
17 department, and the conservation commission if necessary, by rule
18 shall establish the length of time a [A] vehicle inspection report
19 required by this chapter is valid [~~invalid after the end of the 12th~~
20 ~~month following the month in which the report is issued]~~.

21 SECTION 7. Section 548.501(a), Transportation Code, is
22 amended to read as follows:

23 (a) Except as provided by Sections 548.503, 548.5035, and
24 548.504, the fee for inspection of a motor vehicle other than a
25 moped is \$12.50. The fee for inspection of a moped is \$5.75.

26 SECTION 8. Subchapter H, Chapter 548, Transportation Code,
27 is amended by adding Section 548.5035 to read as follows:

1 Sec. 548.5035. FEE FOR THREE-YEAR INSPECTION OF VEHICLES
2 REGISTERED IN CERTAIN COUNTIES. (a) Except as provided by
3 Subsection (b), the fee for inspection of a vehicle under Section
4 548.1025 is \$23.50.

5 (b) The fee for inspection of a moped under Section 548.1025
6 is \$16.75.

7 (c) Out of each fee for an inspection, \$16.50 shall be
8 remitted to the state under Section 548.509.

9 SECTION 9. Section 548.505(a), Transportation Code, is
10 amended to read as follows:

11 (a) The department by rule may impose an inspection fee for
12 a vehicle inspected under Section 548.301(a) in addition to the fee
13 provided by Section 548.501, 548.502, 548.503, 548.5035, or
14 548.504. A fee imposed under this subsection must be based on the
15 costs of:

16 (1) providing inspections; and

17 (2) administering the program.

18 SECTION 10. Not later than March 1, 2022, the Texas
19 Department of Motor Vehicles shall adopt rules and update the
20 department's registration database and system as necessary to
21 ensure that an owner of a vehicle subject to Section 548.010,
22 Transportation Code, as added by this Act, is able to register or
23 renew registration of the vehicle without obtaining an annual
24 safety inspection of the vehicle.

25 SECTION 11. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) of this
26 section, this Act takes effect April 1, 2022.

27 (b) Section 10 of this Act takes effect December 1, 2021.