

By: Hall

S.B. No. 684

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the inspection periods for certain motor vehicles;  
increasing certain fees.

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

SECTION 1. Section 382.202(d), Health and Safety Code, is  
amended to read as follows:

(d) On adoption of a resolution by the commission and after  
proper notice, the Department of Public Safety of the State of Texas  
shall implement a system that requires, ~~[as a condition of~~  
~~obtaining a passing vehicle inspection report issued under~~  
~~Subchapter C, Chapter 548, Transportation Code,~~ in a county that  
is included in a vehicle emissions inspection and maintenance  
program under Subchapter F, Chapter 548, Transportation Code ~~[of~~  
~~that chapter]~~, that a motor vehicle registered in this state ~~[the~~  
~~vehicle]~~, unless the vehicle is not covered by the system, be  
annually or biennially inspected under the vehicle emissions  
inspection and maintenance program as required by the state's air  
quality state implementation plan. The Department of Public Safety  
shall implement such a system when it is required by any provision  
of federal or state law, including any provision of the state's air  
quality state implementation plan.

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

Sec. 548.101. GENERAL FIVE-YEAR ~~[ONE-YEAR]~~ INSPECTION

PERIOD. Except as provided by Section 548.102, the department shall require an ~~[annual]~~ inspection every five years. The department shall set the periods of inspection and may make rules with respect to those periods. ~~[The rules must provide that:~~

~~(1) a vehicle owner may obtain an inspection not earlier than 90 days before the date of expiration of the vehicle's registration; and~~

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

SECTION 3. The heading to Section 548.102, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 548.102. FIVE-YEAR ~~[TWO-YEAR]~~ INITIAL INSPECTION PERIOD FOR PASSENGER CAR OR LIGHT TRUCK.

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

(a) The initial inspection period is five ~~[two]~~ years for a passenger car or light truck that:

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

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

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

SECTION 5. Subchapter C, Chapter 548, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 548.106 to read as follows:

1       Sec. 548.106. TIMING OF INSPECTION FOR REGISTRATION-BASED  
2 ENFORCEMENT. The department shall require a vehicle required to be  
3 inspected under this chapter to pass the required inspection:

4           (1) for initial registration, not earlier than 90 days  
5 before the date of registration;

6           (2) for a renewal of registration, not earlier than 90  
7 days before the date of expiration of the vehicle's registration;

8           (3) if the vehicle is a used motor vehicle sold by a  
9 dealer, as defined by Section 503.001, in the 180 days preceding the  
10 date the dealer sells the vehicle; or

11           (4) if the vehicle is subject to the federal motor  
12 carrier safety regulations, in a period that complies with those  
13 regulations.

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. Sections 548.501(a) and (b), Transportation  
22 Code, are amended to read as follows:

23       (a) Except as provided by Sections 548.503 and 548.504, the  
24 fee for inspection of a [~~motor~~] vehicle other than a moped is \$26.50  
25 [~~\$12.50~~]. The fee for inspection of a moped is \$19.75 [~~\$5.75~~].

26       (b) Out of each fee for an inspection, \$19.50 [~~\$5.50~~] shall  
27 be remitted to the state under Section 548.509.

SECTION 8. Section 548.502, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 548.502. INSPECTION BY POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OR STATE AGENCY. A political subdivision or state agency for which the department certifies an inspection station under Section 548.004:

(1) shall pay to the state \$27.50 [~~\$5.50~~] for each inspection under Section 548.509; and

(2) may not be required to pay the remainder of the inspection fee.

SECTION 9. Section 548.503, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 548.503. INITIAL FIVE-YEAR [~~TWO-YEAR~~] INSPECTION OF PASSENGER CAR OR LIGHT TRUCK. (a) The fee for inspection of a passenger car or light truck under Section 548.102 shall be set by the department by rule on or before September 1 of each year. A fee set by the department under this subsection must be based on the costs of providing inspections and administering the program, but may not be less than \$32.25 [~~\$21.75~~].

(b) Out of each fee for an inspection under this section, \$25.25 [~~\$14.75~~] shall be remitted to the state under Section 548.509.

SECTION 10. Section 548.505, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 548.505. EMISSIONS-RELATED INSPECTION FEE. (a) The department by rule may impose an emissions-related inspection fee for a vehicle inspected under Section 548.301(a) [~~in addition to the fee provided by Section 548.501, 548.502, 548.503, or 548.504~~].

1 A fee imposed under this subsection must be based on the costs of:

2 (1) providing inspections; and

3 (2) administering the program.

4 (b) The department may provide a maximum fee for an  
5 inspection under this section ~~[subchapter]~~. The department may not  
6 set a minimum fee for an inspection under this section  
7 ~~[subchapter]~~.

8 SECTION 11. Section [548.508](#), Transportation Code, is  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 Sec. 548.508. DISPOSITION OF FEES. Except as provided by  
11 Sections [382.0622](#) and [382.202](#), Health and Safety Code, and Sections  
12 ~~[Section]~~ 548.5055 and 548.510 of this code, each fee remitted to  
13 the comptroller under this subchapter shall be deposited to the  
14 credit of the Texas mobility fund.

15 SECTION 12. Section [548.509](#), Transportation Code, is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 Sec. 548.509. COLLECTION OF FEE DURING REGISTRATION. (a)  
18 The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles or a county  
19 assessor-collector that registers a motor vehicle that is subject  
20 to an inspection fee under this chapter or Section [382.202](#), Health  
21 and Safety Code, shall collect at the time of registration of the  
22 motor vehicle the portion of the inspection fee that is required to  
23 be remitted to the state.

24 (b) The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles or the county  
25 assessor-collector shall remit the fee to the comptroller.

26 SECTION 13. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.