

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2020 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 4725

BY DELEGATE HIGGINBOTHAM

[Introduced February 06, 2020; Referred to the Committee
on Technology and Infrastructure then Finance]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §17C-16-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
 2 to requiring motor vehicle inspections only every three years and exempting certain
 3 vehicles from such inspections.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 16. INSPECTION OF VEHICLES.

§17C-16-4. Superintendent of the West Virginia State Police to require periodical inspection; acceptance of certificate of inspection from another state; suspension of registration of unsafe vehicles.

1 (a) The Superintendent of the West Virginia State Police shall once ~~each year~~ every three
 2 years require that every motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer and pole trailer registered in this state
 3 be inspected and that an official certificate of inspection and approval be obtained for each
 4 vehicle: Provided, That any motor vehicle less than four years old or which has been driven less
 5 than 50,000 miles is exempt from inspection.

6 The inspections shall be made and the certificates obtained with respect to the
 7 mechanism, brakes and equipment of every vehicle designated by the superintendent.

8 The superintendent may make necessary rules for the administration and enforcement of
 9 this section and may designate any period or periods during which owners of any vehicles, subject
 10 to this section, shall display upon the vehicles certificates of inspection and approval or shall
 11 produce the certificates upon demand of any officer or employee of the State Police designated
 12 by the superintendent or any police or peace officer when authorized by the superintendent.

13 (b) The superintendent may authorize the acceptance in this state of a certificate of
 14 inspection and approval issued in another state having an inspection law similar to this chapter
 15 and may extend the time within which the resident owner of a vehicle which was not in this state
 16 during the time an inspection was required must obtain a certificate.

17 (c) At the request of the superintendent, the Commissioner of the Division of Motor
 18 Vehicles may suspend the registration of any vehicle which the superintendent determines is in

19 such an unsafe condition that it constitutes a menace to safety or which after notice and demand
20 is not equipped as required in this chapter or for which the vehicle's owner has not obtained the
21 required certificate.

22 (d) If requested by the owner of the vehicle, the superintendent shall also cause to be
23 inspected a Class A farm use motor vehicle exempt from annual registration certificate and
24 licensing as provided in §17A-3-2 of this code. If the Class A farm use motor vehicle passes the
25 inspection, the superintendent shall cause a certificate of inspection to be issued for that vehicle.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require motor vehicle inspections only every three years and to exempt motor vehicles less than four years old or driven less than 50,000 miles from such inspections.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.