WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2022 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 4290

By Delegates Reed, Wamsley, Smith, Worrell, Gearhart, Honaker, Mallow, Mandt, Clark, Crouse, and Rowan

[Introduced January 20, 2022; Referred to the Committee on Technology and Infrastructure then Government Organization]

A BILL to amend and reenact §17C-16-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to inspection of motor vehicles required by the Superintendent of the West Virginia State Police; and providing that motor vehicles three years old or less be inspected every three years.

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.

(a) The Superintendent of the West Virginia State Police shall once each year require that every motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer registered in this state be inspected and that an official certificate of inspection and approval be obtained for each vehicle: *Provided,* That if a motor vehicle is three years old or less, the superintendent shall require inspection every three years. Motor vehicles over three years old shall be inspected every year.

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

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

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

(c) At the request of the Superintendent, the Commissioner of the Division of Motor Vehicles may suspend the registration of any vehicle which the Superintendent determines is in such an unsafe condition that it constitutes a menace to safety or which after notice and demand is not equipped as required in this chapter or for which the vehicle’s owner has not obtained the required certificate.

(d) If requested by the owner of the vehicle, the Superintendent shall also cause to be inspected a Class A farm use motor vehicle exempt from annual registration certificate and licensing as provided in §17A-32 of this code. If the Class A farm use motor vehicle passes the inspection, the Superintendent shall cause a certificate of inspection to be issued for that vehicle.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require the Superintendent of the West Virginia State Police to cause motor vehicles, three years old or less, be inspected every three years.

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