

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2021 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 250

(Delegate Fraser-Hidalgo)

Environment and Transportation

Judicial Proceedings

Commercial Motor Vehicles - Inspections

This bill generally increases the mileage at which Class F (tractor) vehicles and certain Class E (truck) and Class E (dump truck) vehicles must be inspected, maintained, and repaired by a preventive maintenance technician. As a result, some of these vehicles may be subject to less frequent inspections and maintenance in their first five years of operation.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not materially affect State finances or operations.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Bill Summary: A Class F (tractor) vehicle that has been in operation for five years or less from the vehicle's model year must be inspected, maintained, and repaired by a preventive maintenance technician at least every 35,000 miles (rather than 25,000 miles) or every 12 months (whichever occurs first).

A Class E (truck) or a Class E (dump truck) vehicle that has been in operation for five years or less from the vehicle's model year must be inspected, maintained, and repaired by a preventive maintenance technician at least every 50,000 miles (rather than 25,000 miles) or every 12 months (whichever occurs first) if the vehicle is (1) a zero-emission electric vehicle or (2) a fuel cell electric vehicle.

Current Law:

Vehicle Classes Addressed by the Bill

Class E (Truck Vehicle): When registered with the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA), every single unit truck with two or more axles is a Class E (truck vehicle).

Class E (Dump Truck): Upon application, MVA must issue a special Class E “dump service registration” to any applicant who certifies that the vehicle for which the application is made is a Class E (truck) vehicle that (1) is designed to haul cargo and to self-unload by gravity or mechanical means and (2) is to be used to haul feed or other loose materials in bulk.

Class F (Tractor): When registered with MVA, every truck tractor or similar motor vehicle used for propelling, supporting, or drawing a trailer or semitrailer is a Class F (tractor) vehicle.

Preventive Maintenance Schedule

Generally, the above vehicles must be inspected, maintained, and repaired by a preventive maintenance technician at least every 25,000 miles or every 12 months (whichever occurs sooner). However, Class E (dump truck) trucks that have been in operation for 18 years or more from the vehicle’s model year or first registration date (whichever is later) must have the vehicle inspected, maintained, and repaired by a preventive maintenance technician at least every 12,500 miles or every 6 months (whichever occurs first).

Any such vehicle must meet or exceed the standards and requirements set under regulations and may not be operated unless at all times it is appropriately registered and the owner is in compliance with these requirements.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: HB 1505 of 2020 passed the House and was referred to the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee, but no further action was taken.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of State Police; Maryland Department of Transportation; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 12, 2021
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