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HB 602/96 - ENV

1997 Regular Session
7r0052

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Introduced and read first time: January 29, 1997

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program - Enhanced Testing - Indefinite Prohibition**

3 FOR the purpose of extending indefinitely the prohibition against requiring a certain
4 motor vehicle being tested under the Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program to
5 undergo certain transient mass-emission test procedures, certain evaporative
6 system test procedures, a test that requires the removal of the driver from the
7 vehicle being tested, or any on-road testing; making stylistic changes; providing for
8 the effective date of this Act; and generally relating to enhanced testing and test
9 procedures under the Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article - Transportation
12 Section 23-202(d)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
16 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 **Article - Transportation**

18 23-202.

19 (d) (1) Notwithstanding subsection (c)(6) of this section or any other provision
20 of law, [during the period from January 1, 1995 through May 31, 1997,] the emissions
21 control program established under this subtitle may not require for any vehicle other than
22 a State-owned vehicle or, to the extent authorized by federal law, a federally-owned
23 vehicle:

24 (i) Transient mass-emission testing using the IM 240 driving cycle
25 referenced under 40 C.F.R. Part 51;

26 (ii) An evaporative system integrity (pressure) test or an evaporative
27 system transient purge test that requires the disconnection or manipulation of any engine
28 component, including any hose or emissions equipment, that is located in the vehicle's
29 engine compartment;

2

1 (iii) Removal of the driver from a vehicle being tested or inspected; or

2 (iv) On-road testing.

3 (2) (i) The Administration, in consultation with the Secretary, shall
4 develop and offer to owners of vehicles subject to the emissions control program an
5 incentive program designed to encourage voluntary submission to the test described in
6 item (1)(i) of this subsection.

7 (ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of § 23-205(a)(2) and subsection
8 (c)(1) of this section, the incentives offered under this paragraph may include reduced
9 test fees, flexible test schedules, the waiver of late fees, the reduction of expenditures
10 incurred for emissions related repairs necessary to obtain a waiver, and any other
11 cost-effective incentive that is consistent with State and federal law and is reasonably
12 expected by the Administration to increase the number of vehicles that undergo the test
13 described in item (1)(i) of this subsection.

14 (iii) 1. The Administration shall notify vehicle owners of the
15 opportunity to voluntarily submit a vehicle to the testing described in [subparagraph (i)]
16 ITEM (1)(I) of this [paragraph] SUBSECTION.

17 2. The notice required under this subparagraph shall be:

18 A. Prominently displayed at all emissions inspection facilities;
19 and

20 B. Included by the Administration in test notices and other
21 mailings related to the emissions control program that are directed to vehicle owners.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
23 June 1, 1997.