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By: **Senators Ruben, Klausmeier, and Middleton**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2005

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on Periodic Vehicle Safety Inspections**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force on Periodic Vehicle Safety Inspections  
4 to study the costs and benefits to the State of requiring each registered motor  
5 vehicle to pass a periodic safety inspection; providing for the membership and  
6 duties of the Task Force; providing for the appointment of the Chair of the Task  
7 Force; providing for the staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the  
8 Task Force from receiving certain compensation; authorizing a member of the  
9 Task Force to receive reimbursement for certain expenses; requiring the Task  
10 Force to report its finding and recommendations to the Governor and the  
11 General Assembly by a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act;  
12 and generally relating to the establishment of a Task Force to study requiring  
13 each registered motor vehicle to pass an annual safety inspection.

14 **Preamble**

15 WHEREAS, With the exception of certain trucks and buses that are required  
16 to participate in a preventive maintenance program, Maryland requires only used  
17 motor vehicles to pass a safety inspection and only when the used vehicle is being  
18 titled and registered or when transferring title to a used vehicle; and

19 WHEREAS, Each jurisdiction surrounding the State requires all registered  
20 motor vehicles to pass a periodic safety inspection; and

21 WHEREAS, Requiring motor vehicles to a pass a periodic safety inspection can  
22 reduce vehicle accidents by up to 20% each year; now, therefore,

23 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
24 MARYLAND, That:

25 (a) There is a Task Force on Periodic Vehicle Safety Inspections.

26 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

27 (1) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of  
28 the House;

- 1           (2)     two members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate;
- 2           (3)     the Motor Vehicle Administrator, or the Motor Vehicle  
3 Administrator's designee;
- 4           (4)     the Secretary of State Police, or the Secretary's designee; and
- 5           (5)     the following members, appointed by the Governor:
- 6                   (i)     a representative of the Washington, Maryland, Delaware  
7 Service Station and Automotive Repair Association, or a similar organization  
8 representing service stations, automotive repair businesses, convenience stores, and  
9 related businesses; and
- 10                   (ii)    a representative of an automotive consumer interest group.
- 11       (c)     The Governor shall appoint the Chair of the Task Force from among the  
12 members of the Task Force.
- 13       (d)     The Task Force shall:
- 14           (1)     review the laws of other states regarding vehicle safety inspections;
- 15           (2)     consider the costs and benefits for the State of requiring periodic  
16 vehicle safety inspections;
- 17           (3)     consider whether vehicle safety inspections should be conducted by  
18 facilities owned by the State or by private contractors;
- 19           (4)     consider how best to enforce a requirement of periodic vehicle safety  
20 inspections;
- 21           (5)     review any other matter deemed by the Task Force to be relevant to  
22 the issue of periodic vehicle safety inspections; and
- 23           (6)     make specific recommendations and develop draft legislation and  
24 regulations concerning a requirement that each registered motor vehicle pass a  
25 periodic safety inspection.
- 26       (e)     The Motor Vehicle Administration shall provide staffing for the Task  
27 Force.
- 28       (f)     A member of the Task Force may not receive compensation for serving on  
29 the Task Force but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard  
30 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.
- 31       (g)     The Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the  
32 Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General  
33 Assembly no later than December 31, 2005.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take  
2 effect June 1, 2005. It shall remain effective for a period of 7 months and, at the end  
3 of December 31, 2005, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this  
4 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.