SENATE BILL 566

By: Senator Washington
Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2020
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Vehicle Laws – Registration Renewal – Inspection Requirement

FOR the purpose of requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to require, if applicable, the submission of a valid registration renewal inspection certificate before renewing a motor vehicle registration; requiring every vehicle driven on the highways in the State to have certain equipment meeting or exceeding certain standards; requiring a registration renewal inspection to include a certain examination of certain motor vehicle equipment; providing that a registration renewal inspection certificate shall remain valid for a certain period of time; requiring a registration renewal inspection certificate to include certain information; prohibiting an inspection station from charging more than a certain amount for conducting a registration renewal inspection; requiring the Administration to adopt regulations to implement this Act; defining “registration renewal inspection certificate”; and generally relating to required vehicle inspections for motor vehicle registration renewal.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Transportation
Section 13–412(a) and 23–104
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Transportation
Section 23–107.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

Article – Transportation

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
SENATE BILL 566

13–412.

(a) (1) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, unless current validation tabs have been issued by the Administration and are displayed on the plates as provided in this subtitle, the registration and the registration plates issued under this title for them expire at midnight on the dates indicated on the registration card issued by the Administration.

(2) If required under § 23–107.1 of this article, the Administration shall require the submission of a valid registration renewal inspection certificate before renewing the registration for a motor vehicle.

23–104.

(a) Every vehicle driven on the highways in this State shall, where applicable, have the following equipment, meeting or exceeding the standards established jointly by the Administration and the Division: brakes, steering, suspension, horn, door handles, mirrors, tires, exhaust system, lights, glazing, Windows, windshield, wipers, odometer, speedometer, bumpers, properly aligned wheels, wheels and wheel lugs, fenders, floor pans, hood, hood catches, emissions equipment, fuel system, front seat, motor mounts, gear selection indicator for automatic transmissions, universal joints, and seat belts or combination seat belt–shoulder harness if required as original equipment under § 22–412 or § 22–412.1 of this article.

(b) (1) The Administration and the Division jointly may establish standards by rule or regulation for this equipment.

(2) The Administration and the Division shall adopt, consistent with federal law, regulations establishing equipment, performance, and other technical standards for:

(i) Autocycles; and

(ii) Low speed vehicles.

23–107.1.

(A) In this section, “Registration renewal inspection certificate” means a certification by an authorized inspection station that a motor vehicle meets or exceeds the standards established under this title for the equipment subject to inspection.

(B) This section does not apply to Class L (historic) vehicles.
(C) Before the Administration renews the registration of a motor vehicle that is at least 5 model years old, the Administration shall require the submission of a valid registration renewal inspection certificate for the motor vehicle in the manner the Administration requires.

(D) A registration renewal inspection shall include an examination of the following equipment to determine if the equipment meets or exceeds the standards established under this title:

1. Brakes;
2. Steering column;
3. Horn;
4. Mirrors;
5. Lights;
6. Windows;
7. Windshield;
8. Windshield wipers;
9. Speedometer; and
10. Seat belts.

(E) A registration renewal inspection certificate shall:

1. Remain valid for 90 days after the date the certificate is issued; and
2. Identify:
   1. The inspection station where the motor vehicle was inspected; and
   2. The licensed inspection mechanic who inspected the motor vehicle.
(F) An inspection station may not charge more than $45 for conducting a registration renewal inspection.

(G) The Administration shall adopt regulations to implement this section.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2020.