



Maryland Motor Truck Association

9256 Bendix Road, Suite 203, Columbia, MD 21045

Phone: 410-644-4600 Fax: 410-644-2537



HEARING DATE: February 24, 2022

BILL NO/TITLE: SB670 – Vehicle Laws - Registration Renewal - Inspection Requirement

COMMITTEE: Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

POSITION: Support with Amendments

Purpose: SB670 would require vehicles five years old or more to complete an inspection prior to the vehicle's registration renewal.

Background: In Maryland law commercial motor vehicles are subject to significantly greater standards of inspection and repair than passenger cars. Maryland's Preventive Maintenance Program for commercial trucks requires that they be inspected annually or every 25,000 miles, whichever comes first. For a long-haul truck, that inspection can occur 4 to 5 times per year. **This is the most stringent standard in the country.**

The requirements, standards, and inspector qualifications for commercial truck inspections in Maryland's Preventive Maintenance Program are in a different section of the Transportation Article than the new requirement that would be imposed under SB670. The standards for truck inspections are much more substantial than those proposed by SB670 as they include items such as fuel storage systems, suspension, tires/wheels, exhaust systems and more. As currently written MMTA believes the passage of this legislation will confuse motor carriers about the requirements and potentially subject them to an additional inspection on top of the many they are already performing. Should the Committee elect to move forward on this legislation, the Association suggests commercial motor vehicles covered under Maryland's Preventive Maintenance Program be exempt from SB670.

Below is our suggested amendment language:

On page 2, line 15, after "VEHICLES" insert "OR A VEHICLE COVERED UNDER MARYLAND'S PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM AS DEFINED IN SECTION 23-301(g) OF THIS ARTICLE."

About Maryland Motor Truck Association: Maryland Motor Truck Association is a not-for-profit trade association representing the trucking industry since 1935. In service to its 1,000 members, MMTA is committed to supporting and advocating for a safe, efficient, and profitable trucking industry across all sectors and industry types, regardless of size, domicile, or type of operation.

For further information, contact: Louis Campion, (c) 443-623-4223