



**The Maryland Department of the Environment
Secretary Serena McIlwain**

Senate Bill 912

***Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program - Exemption for Vehicles Formerly Registered as
Historic***

Position: Letter of Concern
Committee: Judicial Proceedings
Date: March 10, 2026
From: Jeremy D. Baker, Director of Government Relations

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) offers the following **LETTER OF CONCERN** for SB 912.

Bill Summary

SB 912 would exempt a vehicle from the mandatory emissions inspection under the Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program (VEIP), provided the vehicle was previously registered as a “historic motor vehicle” prior to July 1, 2025. Furthermore, the legislation would allow a vehicle owner to self-certify, utilizing an approved form that the vehicle was registered as “historic” pursuant to §13-936 of the Transportation Article before July 1, 2025.

Key Points

VEIP is jointly administered by the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) and MDE. MVA is responsible for vehicle scheduling, motorist enforcement, overseeing program operations, and serving as the VEIP contract administrator, while MDE oversees program design, establishing test procedures and standards, administering quality assurance auditing, and overseeing related repair programs.

VEIP’s core mission is to control vehicle emissions, a major contributor to ground-level ozone, which adversely affects vulnerable populations, including children, the elderly, and citizens with pre-existing respiratory diseases like asthma. By mandating regular testing and necessary repairs for non-compliant vehicles, VEIP plays a critical role in reducing overall emissions. Despite advancements in vehicle emissions technology and on-board diagnostics systems, an ongoing inspection program remains necessary due to vehicle wear, component malfunction, and the need for routine maintenance. This is especially critical for older vehicles, such as those with historic registrations, which are often kept in operation longer and whose emissions output tends to increase with age. VEIP is essential for ensuring these older vehicles perform optimally and contribute to the State’s clean air goals.

MDE appreciates the opportunity to offer this **LETTER OF CONCERN** for SB 912 and is available for questions.

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