

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 1532

PRINTER'S NO. 2449

AMOUNT

Minimal Fiscal Impact

FUND

Motor License Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

May 29, 2012

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Vogel

HISTORY OF BILL

Referred to TRANSPORTATION, May 29, 2012

Reported as committed, June 19, 2012

First consideration, June 19, 2012

Re-referred to APPROPRIATIONS, June 29, 2012

Re-reported as amended, Oct. 2, 2012

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

Senate Bill 1532 amends Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes to provide for additional exceptions to emission inspection requirements.

Specifically, this legislation amends §4702 and does the following:

- Provides for an annual safety inspection exemption for the first two years after the vehicle is manufactured;
- Provides for an emission inspection exemption, for ten years from the date of original registration, for a vehicle never before registered in this Commonwealth or any other jurisdiction;
- Provides for a permanent emission inspection exemption for any vehicle powered by electric, hybrid electric or natural gas. However, these vehicles shall be subject to visual anti-tampering inspections for the presence of emissions control components installed by the manufacturer; and
- Requires the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, in consultation with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, to immediately notify the Environmental Protection Agency of these modifications to the Pennsylvania Vehicle Emissions Inspection and Maintenance Program and of the intent to seek its approval of the plan in accordance with the requirements of Federal law.

This act shall take effect in 60 days.

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According to IHS Global Insight's September 2012 state Long-Term Forecast, "new passenger car and light truck registrations" in Pennsylvania for the year 2011 totaled 567,000. It's assumed that a similar number of vehicles would annually meet the criteria for an annual safety inspection and emissions inspection exemption under this legislation.

Individual automobile safety and emissions inspection stations determine the safety and emissions inspection fee and, under current law, are authorized to charge a fee for an exemption. Automobile safety and emissions inspection stations keep the fees charged for annual safety and emissions inspections and exemptions.

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation may incur some costs to update the Department's titling and registration system. It's expected that such costs would be minimal and capable of being absorbed within the Department's current appropriations.

Therefore, the enactment of this legislation may have a minimal fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.