

Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE BILL NO. 823

BY REPRESENTATIVE ABRAMSON

MTR VEHICLE/INSPECTION: Requires motor vehicle safety inspections every other year

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 32:1304(A)(1) and 1306(C)(1),(2), and (3)(a) and to enact R.S.  
3 32:1315, relative to motor vehicle inspections; to provide for biennial motor vehicle  
4 inspection requirements; to provide for motor vehicle inspection fees; to provide for  
5 ordinances; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 32:1304(A)(1) and 1306(C)(1), (2), and (3)(a) are hereby amended  
8 and reenacted and R.S. 32:1315 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §1304. Secretary to require periodical inspection

10 A.(1)(a) ~~The secretary shall at least once every other year, but not more~~  
11 ~~frequently than twice each year,~~ require that once every other year every motor  
12 vehicle, low-speed vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer registered in this state  
13 be inspected and that an official certificate of inspection and approval be obtained  
14 for such vehicle.

15 (b) The secretary shall require that the inspection and maintenance (I/M)  
16 program conducted pursuant to R.S. 30:2054(B)(8) for 1980 or newer model year  
17 motor vehicles take place as frequently as required by federal law or regulations or  
18 by agreements with federal agencies.

19 (c) The secretary shall require that the inspection of all commercial motor  
20 vehicles which are required to be inspected under the provisions of Part 396 of Title

1        49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, including Part 396.17 and "Appendix G"  
2        thereof, take place as frequently as required by federal law or regulations.

3                (d) However, overweight and oversize mobile homes requiring a state permit  
4        shall not be required to bear a certificate of approved inspection when being moved  
5        by a bonded carrier as defined by law nor shall used motor vehicles in transit by a  
6        dealer be required to have a certificate of inspection and approval.

7                                \*        \*        \*

8        §1306. Operation of official inspection stations

9                                \*        \*        \*

10               C.(1) ~~An annual~~ A biennial charge or fee shall be charged for each certificate  
11        of inspection and approval issued, as provided in this Subsection.

12               (2) Except as otherwise provided in this Subsection, ~~an annual~~ a biennial  
13        charge or fee of ~~ten twenty~~ dollars shall be charged for each certificate of inspection  
14        and approval issued, ~~four dollars and seventy-five cents~~ nine dollars and fifty cents  
15        of which shall be retained by the operator of the motor vehicle inspection station  
16        conducting the inspection, ~~four~~ eight dollars of which shall be transferred to the  
17        office of state police for use in traffic law enforcement, and ~~one dollar and twenty-~~  
18        ~~five cents~~ two dollars and fifty cents shall be transferred to the office of motor  
19        vehicles for expenses associated with the motor vehicle inspection and financial  
20        responsibility programs. Included in the inspection shall be the adjustment of  
21        headlights when needed and mechanically practical, at no additional cost to the  
22        operator of the motor vehicle inspected.

23               (3)(a) For parishes and municipalities that have been placed on the  
24        nonattainment list for ozone standards and classified as "serious" or worse by the  
25        United States Environmental Protection Agency ~~an additional~~ eight dollars shall be  
26        charged for ~~each inspection that includes~~ the performance of the inspection and  
27        maintenance (I/M) program pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 30:2054(B)(8) for  
28        1980 or newer model year motor vehicles. The motor vehicle inspection station shall  
29        retain six dollars of the ~~additional~~ charge required by this Paragraph for

1 implementation and performance of the I/M program. Two dollars of the ~~additional~~  
2 charge required by this Paragraph shall be transferred to the Louisiana Department  
3 of Environmental Quality to implement and operate the inspection and maintenance  
4 program.

5 \* \* \*

6 §1315. Motor vehicle inspections; ordinances

7 No local code or ordinance requiring motor vehicle inspections shall require  
8 a motor vehicle inspection to be conducted more frequently than what is required by  
9 this Chapter.

10 Section 3. This Act shall be effective January 1, 2011.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Abramson

HB No. 823

**Abstract:** Requires motor vehicle inspections to be conducted once every other year with exceptions of the inspection required by the I/M program and the inspection for commercial motor vehicles.

Present law requires a motor vehicle inspection at least every other year and not more frequently than every six months. The La. Administrative Code requires annual inspections.

Proposed law requires motor vehicle inspections every other year, commercial motor vehicle inspections as frequently as required by federal law or regulations, and I/M program inspections for motor vehicles in the nonattainment zone as frequently as required by federal requirements.

Present law states inspections shall cost \$10 annually for motor vehicles and an additional \$8 annually for motor vehicles in the nonattainment zone for the I/M program inspection and \$30 annually for commercial motor vehicles.

Proposed law requires motor vehicle inspections shall cost \$20 biennially for motor vehicles. Proposed law retains present law for the cost of the I/M program and commercial motor vehicle inspections.

Proposed law prohibits local code or ordinances to require motor vehicle inspections to be conducted more frequently than what is required by the state.

Effective Jan. 1, 2011.

(Amends R.S. 32:1304(A)(1) and 1306(C)(1)-(3)(a); Adds R.S. 32:1315)