

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 566

S.P. 246

In Senate, February 25, 2025

**An Act to Modernize the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program and
Amend the Law Governing Inspection Fees**

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on February 19, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Transportation pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator FARRIN of Somerset.
Cosponsored by Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, CRAFTS of Newcastle,
DUCHARME of Madison.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §1751, sub-§3-A**, as enacted by PL 2001, c. 234, §2, is
3 amended to read:

4 **3-A. Inspection fees fee.** An inspection station may charge ~~the following fees:~~ a fee
5 of not more than \$20 for an inspection performed under subsection 2 or 2-A.

6 ~~A. For inspections performed under subsection 2, the fee may not be more than \$12.50;~~

7 ~~B. For inspections of pre-1996 model vehicles performed under subsection 2-A, the~~
8 ~~fee may not be more than \$15.50; and~~

9 ~~C. For inspections of 1996 and subsequent model vehicles performed under subsection~~
10 ~~2-A, the fee may not be more than \$18.50.~~

11 The inspection fee is payable whether the vehicle passes inspection or not.

12 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §1751-A** is enacted to read:

13 **§1751-A. Electronic inspection program**

14 The Chief of the State Police may require the use of an electronic inspection program
15 for the purpose of inspections performed under this chapter. For the purposes of this
16 section, "electronic inspection program" means a program, designated by the Chief of the
17 State Police by rule, that uses electronically generated data as part of an inspection and
18 permits the creation and exchange of an electronic record for maintaining inspection
19 information.

20 **1. Implementation.** The Chief of the State Police may contract with a private entity to
21 implement an electronic inspection program.

22 **2. Phased approach.** The Chief of the State Police may develop by rule an approach
23 to phase in the implementation of an electronic inspection program throughout the State.

24 **3. Fee.** The Chief of the State Police may designate by rule a fee that an inspection
25 station must pay to the State for each inspection performed using an electronic inspection
26 program. A fee required under this subsection may not be more than the cost to the State
27 of using the electronic inspection program to perform an inspection.

28 **4. Rules.** The Chief of the State Police shall adopt rules to implement this section.
29 Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5,
30 chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

31 **Sec. 3. 29-A MRSA §2307, sub-§4**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 and
32 affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

33 **4. Fee.** The operator of an official school bus inspection station is entitled to a fee of
34 ~~\$8~~ \$20 for each school bus inspected. The fee does not include labor or material used in
35 correction of faults.

36 **SUMMARY**

37 This bill authorizes the Chief of the State Police to require the use of an electronic
38 inspection program for the purpose of performing motor vehicle inspections. It also
39 authorizes an inspection station to charge a \$20 fee for inspection regardless of the model

1 year of the inspected vehicle and provides that an operator of an official school bus
2 inspection station is entitled to a fee of \$20 for each school bus inspected.