

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

No. 667

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H.P. 435

House of Representatives, February 25, 2025

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

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Received by the Clerk of the House on February 20, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Transportation pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative PARRY of Arundel.  
Cosponsored by Representative: CRAFTS of Newcastle.

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 2 1/2 times the State's minimum wage under Title 26, section 664 for an  
6 inspection performed under subsection 2 or 2-A.

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

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

10 ~~C. For inspections of 1996 and subsequent model vehicles performed under subsection~~  
11 ~~2-A, the fee may not be more than \$18.50.~~

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

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

14 **§1751-A. Electronic inspection program**

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

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

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

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

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

32 The Chief of the State Police may exempt from the requirements of this section an  
33 inspection station that demonstrates economic hardship as a result of using an electronic  
34 inspection program.

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

37 **4. Fee.** The operator of an official school bus inspection station is entitled to a fee of  
38 ~~\$8~~ not more than 2 1/2 times the State's minimum wage under Title 26, section 664 for each  
39 school bus inspected. The fee does not include labor or material used in correction of faults.

**SUMMARY**

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This bill authorizes the Chief of the State Police to require the use of an electronic inspection program for the purpose of performing motor vehicle inspections and to exempt from this requirement an inspection station that demonstrates economic hardship as a result of using an electronic inspection program. It also authorizes an inspection station to charge a fee not more than 2 1/2 times the State's minimum wage for inspection regardless of the model year of the inspected vehicle and provides that an operator of an official school bus inspection station is entitled to a fee not more than 2 1/2 times the State's minimum wage for each school bus inspected.