

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 746

S.P. 304

In Senate, February 16, 2023

**An Act to Modernize the State's Vehicle Inspection System by
Requiring Inspections Biennially and Allowing for an Electronic
Inspection Program**

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested 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 VITELLI of Sagadahoc.
Cosponsored by Representative PLUECKER of Warren and
Senators: President JACKSON of Aroostook, STEWART of Aroostook, Representatives:
ANKELES of Brunswick, ARATA of New Gloucester, DILL of Old Town, FAULKINGHAM
of Winter Harbor.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §1751, sub-§1**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 and
3 affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

4 **1. Inspection required.** Except as provided in this chapter or section 2307, subsection
5 1, a motor vehicle required to be registered in this State must have an ~~annual~~ inspection
6 every other year. A person may have a motor vehicle inspected more frequently.

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

8 **§1751-A. Electronic inspection program**

9 The Chief of the State Police may make available, but may not require the use of, an
10 electronic inspection program for the purpose of inspections performed under this chapter.
11 For the purposes of this section, "electronic inspection program" means a program,
12 designated by the Chief of the State Police by rule, that uses electronically generated data
13 as part of an inspection and permits the creation and exchange of an electronic record for
14 maintaining inspection information.

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

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

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

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

26 **SUMMARY**

27 This bill makes the following changes to Maine's motor vehicle inspection program.

28 1. It changes the annual vehicle inspection requirement to an inspection every other
29 year.

30 2. It allows the Chief of the State Police to make available, but does not authorize the
31 chief to require the use of, an electronic inspection program for the purpose of performing
32 motor vehicle inspections.

33 3. It defines "electronic inspection program" as a program that uses electronically
34 generated data as part of an inspection and permits the creation and exchange of an
35 electronic record for maintaining inspection information.