

HCS HBs 799, 334, 424 & 1069 -- MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY INSPECTIONS

SPONSOR: Baker

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Government Efficiency by a vote of 16 to 3. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Legislative by a vote of 7 to 3.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HBs 799, 334, 424 & 1069.

Currently, safety inspections are not required for registration of a motor vehicle having less than 150,000 miles for the 10 year period following the model year of manufacture.

This bill changes that exemption to motor vehicles having less than 150,000 miles and a model year of 2012 or newer.

This bill provides that vehicle identification number and odometer inspections for titling purposes can be performed by an employee of a licensed new or used motor vehicle dealer if the vehicle is sold to a person who lives out of state and intends to register the vehicle out of state, or if the motor vehicle has less than 30,000 miles for the three-year period following the model year of manufacture.

A licensed motor vehicle dealer who knowingly completes an inspection with incorrect information will be subject to disciplinary action by the Department of Revenue. The bill also specifies that a pre-sale inspection must be performed no more than 60 days prior to sale and also exempts these vehicles from safety and emissions inspections prior to sale if the vehicle is sold by a private seller or by a licensed motor vehicle dealer that has sold at least 200 motor vehicles in the previous calendar year.

This HCS is the same as HB 424 (2025) and includes HB 1018 (2025).

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that there is not available data tied to the number of accidents caused by a mechanical failure and that age of a vehicle is really arbitrary and the amount of mileage is a better indicator of whether the vehicle is safe but even that isn't dispositive. There are states that have never had these types of motor vehicle inspections and some of them have fewer rates of accidents than Missouri.

This is the government mandating a private business to perform a service at a cost lower than what they would otherwise charge.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Baker; Arnie Dienoff.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that they are opposed to any legislation that would change or weaken the Missouri State Vehicle Safety Program. The effectiveness of the program is well documented. The data confirms that states with Safety Inspection Programs show that the fatality due to mechanical failure is half compared to the states that do not require vehicle safety inspections.

Testifying in person against the bill was Midwest Auto Car Alliance (MWACA).

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony and witnesses testifying online can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.