

2026 Regular Session

# ACT No. 701

HOUSE BILL NO. 1085 (Substitute for House Bill No. 838 by Representative Bagley)

BY REPRESENTATIVE BAGLEY

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 30:2054(B)(8) and R.S. 32:357, 1301, 1302, 1304, 1306(C), to  
 3 enact R.S. 32:1304.1, and to repeal R.S. 32:707.5(D)(3) and 1303, relative to vehicle  
 4 inspection sticker requirements; to repeal the inspection sticker requirement for  
 5 assembled vehicles; to provide for periodic inspection of commercial and student  
 6 transportation vehicles and associated fees; to provide for inspections required by  
 7 federal law; to provide for windshield requirements; to provide for the promulgation  
 8 of standards for the regulation of emission control devices; to provide for the  
 9 approval of out of state inspections under certain circumstances; to provide for the  
 10 Louisiana Vehicle Identification Program; to provide relative to the operation of  
 11 official inspection stations; to restrict the issuance of citations for failure to produce  
 12 a certificate of inspection for a specified period; to provide for effectiveness; to  
 13 provide for severability; and to provide for related matters.

14 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

15 Section 1. R.S. 30:2054(B)(8) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

16 §2054. Air quality control; secretary of environmental quality; powers and duties

17 \* \* \*

18 B. The secretary shall have the following powers and duties:

19 \* \* \*

20 (8) To establish and implement a program for the control and abatement of  
 21 motor vehicle emissions in accordance with R.S. 30:2060 and other applicable state  
 22 and federal laws, particularly the Clean Air Act as amended, but not to exceed the

1 requirements provided in such act unless specifically authorized. Such program shall  
 2 be applicable only in parishes and municipalities as necessary to comply with the  
 3 requirements of the federal Clean Air Act or regulations promulgated by the United  
 4 States Environmental Protection Agency. If such program includes the periodic  
 5 inspection of motor vehicles, the frequency of performing such inspections shall be  
 6 as allowed by federal law or regulations or by agreements with federal agencies.  
 7 During each calendar year, the secretary may exempt vehicles of that model year and  
 8 vehicles from prior model years from on-board diagnostic (OBD II) testing. The fees  
 9 due the department for this program pursuant to ~~R.S. 32:1306(C)(3)~~ R.S.  
 10 32:1306(C)(2) shall be deposited into the Environmental Trust Dedicated Fund  
 11 Account.

\* \* \*

12  
 13 Section 2. R.S. 32:357, 1301, 1302, 1304, 1306(C) are hereby amended and  
 14 reenacted and R.S. 32:1304.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

15 §357. Windshields required

16 A. Every passenger vehicle, other than a motorcycle, and every motor truck  
 17 or truck tractor, and every authorized emergency vehicle shall be equipped with an  
 18 adequate windshield.

19 B. Every noncommercial vehicle registered in this state shall be required to  
 20 maintain the integrity and condition of the windshield. The standards for  
 21 windshields are as follows:

22 (1) In the eight and one-half inch by eleven inch "acute area" directly in the  
 23 driver's line of vision there shall be no cracks and there shall be no more than two  
 24 stars, nicks, chips, bullseyes, or half-moons in excess of one-half inch.

25 (2) In the "critical area" cleaned by the normal sweep of the windshield  
 26 wiper blade on the driver's side of the windshield there shall be no star which is  
 27 larger than two inches in diameter; there shall be no more than two stars larger than  
 28 one and one-half inches in diameter; and there shall be no more than two cracks  
 29 longer than eight inches; or any combination thereof.



1 test with reference thereto as may be appropriate, and issue a citation to the operator  
2 of such vehicle.

3 B. In the event such vehicle is found to be in unsafe condition or any  
4 required part or equipment is not present or is not in proper repair and adjustment the  
5 officer shall give a written notice to the driver and shall send a copy to the  
6 department. Said notice shall require that such vehicle be placed in safe condition  
7 and its equipment in proper repair and adjustment specifying the particulars with  
8 reference thereto ~~and that a certificate of inspection and approval be obtained within~~  
9 ~~5 days.~~

10 \* \* \*

11 §1304. Secretary to require ~~periodical~~ periodic inspection; out of state inspections;  
12 commercial and student transportation vehicles

13 A.~~(1)~~ The secretary shall at least once a every other year, but not more  
14 frequently than twice each year, require that every ~~motor vehicle, low-speed vehicle,~~  
15 ~~trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer registered in this state~~ commercial motor vehicle  
16 registered in this state and required to be inspected pursuant to 49 CFR Part 396,  
17 including Part 396.17 and "Appendix G" thereof, every covered farm vehicle with  
18 a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating exceeding twenty-  
19 six thousand pounds, and every student transportation vehicle registered in this state  
20 and required to be inspected pursuant to LAC 28:CXIII.701(A)(3) and regulations  
21 promulgated by the secretary be inspected and that an official certificate of  
22 inspection and approval be obtained for such vehicle. ~~However, overweight and~~  
23 ~~oversize mobile homes requiring a state permit shall not be required to bear a~~  
24 ~~certificate of approved inspection when being moved by a bonded carrier as defined~~  
25 ~~by law nor shall used motor vehicles in transit by a dealer be required to have a~~  
26 ~~certificate of inspection and approval.~~

27 ~~(2) Such inspection should be made and such certificates obtained with~~  
28 ~~respect to the mechanism, brakes, and equipment of every vehicle as shall be~~  
29 ~~designated by the secretary. The secretary shall require the inspection of all~~  
30 ~~approved automotive emission control devices installed on motor vehicles produced~~

1 after model year 1980 to insure that such devices are operative and have not been  
2 tampered with. However, low-speed vehicles shall not be subject to regular  
3 emissions inspections

4 ~~(3)(a) The secretary shall formulate and promulgate a set of standards for the~~  
5 ~~control and regulation of emission control devices on all automobiles and other~~  
6 ~~motor vehicles which standards shall be consistent with other federal and state~~  
7 ~~regulations for the installation and operation of approved emission control devices.~~

8 ~~(b) The secretary is hereby authorized to make necessary rules and~~  
9 ~~regulations for the administration and enforcement of this Section and to designate~~  
10 ~~any periods of time during which owners of vehicles, subject to this Section, shall~~  
11 ~~display upon such vehicles certificates of inspection and approval and shall produce~~  
12 ~~them on demand of any officer or employee of the department designated by the~~  
13 ~~secretary or any police or peace officer when authorized by the secretary. However,~~  
14 ~~an owner or operator of a light trailer, utility trailer, boat trailer, or farm trailer need~~  
15 ~~only provide a valid inspection sticker on demand of an inspecting officer to be in~~  
16 ~~compliance with the inspection requirements of this Chapter.~~

17 ~~(4) The rules and regulations adopted for the administration and enforcement~~  
18 ~~of this Section shall include standards for windshields as follows:~~

19 ~~(a) In the eight and one-half inch by eleven inch "acute area" directly in the~~  
20 ~~driver's line of vision there shall be no cracks and there shall be no more than two~~  
21 ~~stars, nicks, chips, bullseyes, or half-moons in excess of one-half inch.~~

22 ~~(b) In the "critical area" cleaned by the normal sweep of the windshield~~  
23 ~~wiper blade on the driver's side of the windshield there shall be no star which is~~  
24 ~~larger than two inches in diameter; there shall be no more than two stars larger than~~  
25 ~~one and one-half inches in diameter; and there shall be no more than two cracks~~  
26 ~~longer than eight inches; or any combination thereof.~~

27 ~~(c) In the remaining areas of the windshield, only those cracks which~~  
28 ~~jeopardize the integrity of the windshield shall be cause for rejection.~~

29 B. The secretary is hereby authorized to make necessary rules and  
30 regulations for the administration and enforcement of this Section and to designate

1 any periods of time during which owners of vehicles, subject to this Section, shall  
 2 display upon such vehicles certificates of inspection and approval or shall produce  
 3 the same on demand of any officer or employee of the department designated by the  
 4 secretary or any police or peace officer when authorized by the secretary. Owners  
 5 and operators of all ~~motor~~ vehicles, pursuant to this Section, required to be equipped  
 6 with windshields shall display on the lower left hand corner of the windshield a  
 7 certificate of inspection affixed thereto by a duly authorized motor vehicle inspection  
 8 station. The secretary shall accept the certificate of inspection and approval issued  
 9 by any municipality pursuant to any municipal ordinance adopted prior to July 27,  
 10 1960. However, each person who applies for a motor vehicle inspection tag in the  
 11 city of New Orleans shall produce written proof of insurance from an insurer that the  
 12 motor vehicle is covered by security and shall declare in writing that he ~~or she~~  
 13 intends to maintain said security at all times while said vehicle is used upon the  
 14 highways of Louisiana.

15 ~~C. The director may authorize the acceptance in this state of a certificate of~~  
 16 ~~inspection and approval issued in another state having an inspection law similar to~~  
 17 ~~this Chapter and may extend the time within which a certificate shall be obtained by~~  
 18 ~~the resident owner of a vehicle which was not in this state during the time an~~  
 19 ~~inspection was required.~~

20 ~~D.(1) C.~~ C. The secretary may suspend the registration of any vehicle which he  
 21 determines is in such unsafe condition as to constitute a menace to safety, or which  
 22 after notice and demand is not equipped as required in this Chapter, or for which a  
 23 required certificate has not been obtained.

24 ~~E.(1) The mere failure of the owner or operator of a motor vehicle required~~  
 25 ~~by this Section to be inspected to obtain a current and valid inspection certificate~~  
 26 ~~shall not be in violation, provided that the certificate has been expired less than one~~  
 27 ~~calendar month; nor shall an owner or operator be in violation if he shall produce on~~  
 28 ~~demand, under Subsection B of this Section, a certificate of inspection for the vehicle~~  
 29 ~~valid and effective for not more than six months and not in current display on the~~  
 30 ~~windshield by reason of replacement of the windshield glass.~~

1           ~~D.(2)~~ When a certificate of inspection is removed from a  
2 windshield by reason of replacement of windshield glass, the owner of the vehicle  
3 may be issued, for a fee of five dollars and twenty-five cents and return of the  
4 original certificate to an inspection certificate station, a certificate which shall be  
5 valid for the time remaining on the original certificate.

6           ~~F. The purchaser of a used vehicle from a private individual shall be~~  
7 ~~protected from citations for failure to have an inspection tag during the interval~~  
8 ~~between the date of purchase and the receipt of title, provided proof of application~~  
9 ~~can be shown.~~

10           ~~G. E.~~ In order to enforce the provisions of this Section as applicable to motor  
11 vehicles which are propelled by an internal combustion engine or motor capable of  
12 using liquefied petroleum gas or compressed natural gas, no such vehicle shall be  
13 issued a motor vehicle inspection certificate without a current decal as evidence of  
14 tax payment, as required by R.S. 47:802.3.

15           ~~H. F.~~ No motor vehicle registered in a parish that approves the fee or charge  
16 authorized by R.S. 32:1306.1 shall be inspected in a parish other than the parish of  
17 registration.

18           G.(1) In addition, the secretary shall require motor vehicles registered in a  
19 parish or municipality subject to the federal Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.,  
20 or continuous regulations promulgated by the United States Environmental  
21 Protection Agency requiring performance of the inspection and maintenance (I/M)  
22 program, be inspected in accordance with R.S. 30:2054(B)(8). Nothing in this  
23 Section shall be construed to relieve any operator of a motor vehicle, low-speed  
24 vehicle as defined in R.S. 32:1(50), trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, or any  
25 combination thereof from compliance with the provisions of R.S. 32:1301.

26           (2) The secretary shall require the inspection of all approved automotive  
27 emission control devices installed on vehicles required to be inspected or that were  
28 produced after model year 1980 to ensure that such devices have not been tampered  
29 with and are operative. However, low-speed vehicles shall not be subject to regular  
30 emissions inspections.

1           (3)(a) The secretary shall formulate and promulgate a set of standards for the  
2           control and regulation of emission control devices on all automobiles and other  
3           motor vehicles subject to inspection pursuant to this Section, which standards shall  
4           be consistent with other federal and state regulations for the installation and  
5           operation of approved emission control devices.

6           (b) The secretary is hereby authorized to make necessary rules and  
7           regulations for the administration and enforcement of this Section and to designate  
8           any periods of time during which owners of vehicles, subject to this Section, shall  
9           provide external, readily visible certificates of inspection for emissions inspection  
10           and approval or shall produce them on demand of any officer or employee of the  
11           department designated by the secretary or any police or peace officer when  
12           authorized by the secretary.

13           H. The secretary may authorize the acceptance in this state of a certificate  
14           of inspection and approval issued in another state having an inspection law similar  
15           to this Chapter and may extend the time within which a certificate shall be obtained  
16           by the resident owner of a vehicle which was not in this state during the time an  
17           inspection was required.

18           §1304.1. Louisiana Vehicle Identification Program

19           A. The secretary shall require that every motor vehicle or low speed vehicle,  
20           as defined in R.S. 32:1(50), registered in this state bear a Louisiana Vehicle  
21           Identification Program sticker.

22           B. The Louisiana Vehicle Identification Program sticker shall contain the  
23           vehicle identification number and be visible to law enforcement.

24           C. The fee for the Louisiana Vehicle Identification Program shall not exceed  
25           six dollars per year and may be assessed and collected on a biennial basis.

26           D.(1) The secretary is hereby authorized to promulgate necessary rules and  
27           regulations for the administration and enforcement of this Section and to designate  
28           during which owners of vehicles, subject to this Section, shall display upon such  
29           vehicles program stickers.

1                   (2) The rules and regulations adopted for the administration and enforcement  
2                   of this Section shall include but not be limited to:

3                   (a) The location to affix the program sticker.

4                   (b) The inclusion of a barcode, quick response code, or comparable  
5                   electronic identifier on the sticker.

6   \*       \*       \*

7                   §1306. Operation of official inspection stations

8   \*       \*       \*

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

11                   ~~(b) Persons operating an official inspection station shall offer certificates of~~  
12                   ~~inspection that are valid for both one year and two year periods. The owner of the~~  
13                   ~~vehicle shall have the option of purchasing a one year or a two year certificate. A~~  
14                   ~~charge or fee shall be charged for each year of validity of the certificate of inspection~~  
15                   ~~and approval issued, as provided in this Subsection.~~

16                   ~~(c) The provisions of Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph shall not apply to~~  
17                   ~~the inspection programs provided for in Paragraphs (3) and (5) of this Subsection and~~  
18                   ~~to student transportation vehicles.~~

19                   ~~(2) Except as otherwise provided in this Subsection, for each year of validity~~  
20                   ~~of the certificate issued, a charge or fee of ten dollars shall be charged, four dollars~~  
21                   ~~and seventy-five cents of which shall be retained by the operator of the motor vehicle~~  
22                   ~~inspection station conducting the inspection, four dollars of which shall be~~  
23                   ~~transferred to the office of state police for use in traffic law enforcement, and one~~  
24                   ~~dollar and twenty-five cents shall be transferred to the office of motor vehicles for~~  
25                   ~~expenses associated with the motor vehicle inspection and financial responsibility~~  
26                   ~~programs. Included in the inspection shall be the adjustment of headlights when~~  
27                   ~~needed and mechanically practical, at no additional cost to the operator of the motor~~  
28                   ~~vehicle inspected.~~

29                   ~~(3)~~~~(a)~~ (2)(a) For parishes and municipalities that have a vehicle inspection  
30                   and maintenance program required by the federal Clean Air Act or regulations

1 promulgated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, ~~an additional~~  
2 eight dollars shall be charged for each inspection that includes the performance of  
3 the inspection and maintenance (I/M) program pursuant to the provisions of R.S.  
4 30:2054(B)(8) for 1980 or newer model year motor vehicles. The motor vehicle  
5 inspection station shall retain six dollars of the ~~additional~~ charge for implementation  
6 and performance of the I/M program. Two dollars of the ~~additional~~ charge shall be  
7 transferred to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality to implement and  
8 operate the inspection and maintenance program.

9 (b) The department shall promulgate and adopt rules and regulations  
10 necessary to implement the provisions of this Paragraph.

11 ~~(c) The provisions of this Paragraph shall not apply to any trailer, light~~  
12 ~~trailer, or semitrailer.~~

13 ~~(4) (3)~~ (3) The maintenance and inspection program and the fees provided for  
14 in Paragraph ~~(3) (2)~~ (2) of this Subsection shall be discontinued when the I/M program  
15 is discontinued as allowed by the federal Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq., and  
16 regulations promulgated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency or  
17 agreements with the agency concerning the implementation of this program, or result  
18 in any other noncompliance regarding this Subsection.

19 ~~(5) (4)~~ (4) An annual charge or fee of thirty dollars shall be charged for the  
20 inspection of all commercial motor vehicles which are required to be inspected under  
21 the provisions of ~~Part 396 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations~~ 49 CFR  
22 Part 396, including Part 396.17 and "Appendix G" thereof. No charges or fees other  
23 than the thirty-dollar fee shall be charged for a commercial motor vehicle inspection.  
24 Of the thirty-dollar fee, the motor vehicle inspection station operator who performs  
25 this inspection shall retain twenty-three dollars and seventy-five cents; two dollars  
26 and twenty-five cents shall be transferred to the office of motor vehicles for expenses  
27 associated with motor vehicle and financial responsibility programs; and four dollars  
28 of which shall be transferred to the office of state police for use in traffic law  
29 enforcement. Included in the inspection shall be the adjustment of headlights at no  
30 additional cost to the operator of the motor vehicle being inspected. ~~The Legislature~~

1 of Louisiana hereby declares that a commercial motor vehicle inspection is much  
 2 more extensive than the inspection mandated in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection and  
 3 that the increase in the fee or charge for the inspection of commercial vehicles is  
 4 based on the difference in the two types of inspection.

5 ~~(6)(a)~~ (5)(a) The charge or fee for the inspection of student transportation  
 6 vehicles which are required to be inspected ~~under~~ pursuant to LAC  
 7 28:CXIII.701(A)(3) shall be twenty dollars. No charges or fees other than the  
 8 twenty-dollar fee shall be charged for a student transportation vehicle inspection. Of  
 9 the twenty-dollar fee, the motor vehicle inspection station operator who performs  
 10 this inspection shall retain fourteen dollars and seventy-five cents; one dollar and  
 11 twenty-five cents shall be transferred to the office of motor vehicles for expenses  
 12 associated with motor vehicle and financial responsibility programs; and four dollars  
 13 shall be transferred to the office of state police for use in traffic law enforcement.

14 (b) The adjustment of headlights shall be included in the inspection at no  
 15 additional cost to the owner or operator of the school bus being inspected.

16 ~~(c) The Legislature of Louisiana hereby declares that a student transportation~~  
 17 ~~vehicle inspection is much more extensive than the inspection required of other~~  
 18 ~~motor vehicles and that the increase in the fee or charge for the inspection of student~~  
 19 ~~transportation vehicles is based on the difference in these types of inspections.~~

20 \* \* \*

21 Section 3. R.S. 32:707.5(D)(3) and 1303 are hereby repealed in their entirety.

22 Section 4. The commissioner of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections,  
 23 office of motor vehicles, shall adopt rules and regulations in accordance with the  
 24 Administrative Procedure Act to provide for the implementation of the provisions of this Act  
 25 by no later than December 31, 2026, and is authorized to use the emergency rulemaking  
 26 process.

27 Section 5. For the period from June 30, 2026, to January 1, 2027, no law  
 28 enforcement officer shall issue citations to any motor vehicle for failing to produce or  
 29 display a certificate of inspection.

1           Section 6. For the parishes subject to the federal Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. 7401 et  
 2           seq., or continuous regulations promulgated by the United States Environmental Protection  
 3           Agency requiring performance of the inspection and maintenance (I/M) program, this Act  
 4           shall take effect if and when the United States Environmental Protection Agency adopts the  
 5           proposed State Implementation Plan amendments submitted by the Department of  
 6           Environmental Quality. For all other parishes, this Act shall take effect on January 1, 2027.

7           Section 7. If any provision of this Act, or the application thereof, is held invalid,  
 8           such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items, or applications of the Act which can  
 9           be given effect without the invalid provision, item, or application and to this end the  
 10          provisions of this Act are hereby declared severable.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_