

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2011

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SENATE DRS55019-MA-81 (01/27)

Short Title: Emissions/Safety Inspection Changes.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senator East.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO PREVENT AN INSPECTION STATION FROM DENYING AN INSPECTION  
3 AUTHORIZATION FOR THE MERE FACT THAT THE "CHECK ENGINE LIGHT" IS  
4 ON WITH NO UNDERLYING EMISSION OR SAFETY ISSUES WHICH WOULD  
5 REQUIRE A DENIAL AND TO LIMIT THE REQUIRED EMISSIONS AND SAFETY  
6 INSPECTIONS TO ONCE A YEAR REGARDLESS OF THE VEHICLE'S  
7 OWNERSHIP.

8 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

9 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 20-183.3 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

10 "(b2) Check Engine Light Malfunctions. – No vehicle shall fail an emissions or safety  
11 inspection for merely having a "check engine light" malfunction if the underlying reason for the  
12 malfunction cannot be determined based on information gathered from the OBD or if the  
13 underlying reason for the "check engine light" malfunction is for a condition of the engine or  
14 vehicle that is not regulated by this Part."

15 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 20-183.4C(a)(2) reads as rewritten:

16 "(a) Inspection. – A vehicle that is subject to a safety inspection, an emissions  
17 inspection, or both must be inspected as follows:

18 ...

19 (2) A used vehicle must be inspected before it is offered for sale at retail in this  
20 State by a ~~dealer~~-dealer unless the vehicle has received a passing inspection  
21 within the previous 12 months. Upon purchase, a receipt approved by the  
22 Division must be provided to the new owner certifying compliance.

23 ...."

24 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2011, and applies to  
25 inspections performed on or after that date.

