

The 194th General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
2025-2026
Bill Summary

Bill No: H1195

Title: An Act relative to eliminating surcharges for vehicle inspection violations

Sponsor: Rep. Steven S. Howitt

Committee: Financial Services

Hearing Date: May 27, 2025

Reporting Date: July 26, 2025

Similar Matters:

Prior History:

H1047 (2023-2024) Study

Current Law: Chapter 90 Section 7A

Chapter 90 Section 7A (in-part) In addition to the emissions testing requirements, the rules and regulations for the periodic staggered inspection established hereunder shall include, but not be limited to, an annual maintenance inspection to determine the proper and safe condition of the following: brakes, stop lamps, lights, directional signals, horn, vehicle identification number, steering and suspension systems, glazing, windshield wipers and cleaner, number plates, tires, fenders, bumpers, external sheet metal, reflectors, splash guards, chock blocks, safety belts and exhaust system. The registrar may waive, by written document, certain inspection requirements if any such waiver furthers the public interest or is based on technological development and does not compromise the public safety; provided, however, that for motor vehicles one model year old or less, the registrar may require that the initial inspection mandated by this paragraph be performed at the end of the first full year of registration.

Summary:

If any vehicle does not pass inspection and if the operator is pulled over more than 15 days after the failed inspection, it would not be considered a moving violation for the purpose of determining insurance surcharges. This bill would extend to all vehicles including slow moving and school busses.