

---

## DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

---

HB 838 Original

2026 Regular Session

Bagley

**Abstract:** Eliminates the requirement for certain vehicles to have an inspection sticker.

Present law (R.S. 32:1301) specifies that no person is permitted to drive or move on any highway any motor vehicle, low-speed vehicle as defined in present law, any trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, or any combination thereof, unless the equipment upon any such vehicle is in good working order and adjustment as required in existing law and the vehicle is in such safe mechanical condition as not to endanger the driver or other occupant or any person upon the highway. Further, specifies that every motor vehicle, low-speed vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer registered in this state shall bear a valid safety inspection certificate issued in the state of La., except as otherwise provided by this Chapter.

Proposed law modifies present law by requiring only commercial and student transportation vehicles have an inspection sticker.

Present law (R.S. 32:1302) authorizes certain law enforcement agencies to issue citations for vehicles that are unsafe or not equipped according to present law.

Proposed law removes the requirement that an officer give a written notice to the driver and send a copy to the department. Additionally, removes the requirement of said notice to require that such vehicle be placed in safe condition and its equipment in proper repair and adjustment specifying the particulars with reference thereto and that a certificate of inspection and approval be obtained within five days. Removes the provision providing for vehicles found to be in unsafe condition or any required part or equipment is not present or is not in proper repair and adjustment.

Proposed law requires only commercial vehicles and student transportation vehicles be inspected in accordance with present law.

Present law (R.S. 32:1304(A)(1)) specifies that the secretary must at least once every other year, no more than twice, require every motor vehicle, including specific enumerated types be inspected and receive an inspection sticker upon approval. Provides an exception to this requirement for bonded carriers.

Proposed law removes the inspection sticker requirement applicable to all motor vehicles. Also removes the exclusion of overweight and oversize mobile homes requiring a state permit from not being required to bear a certificate of approved inspection when being moved by a bonded carrier as defined by law nor used motor vehicles in transit by a dealer be required to have a certificate of

inspection and approval.

Proposed law requires those vehicles registered in parishes governed by the U.S. Clean Air Act to obtain an emissions inspection as required under federal law and be inspected in accordance to present law.

Present law (R.S. 32:1304(A)(2)) requires that such inspections be made and certificates obtained with respect to the mechanism, brakes, and equipment of every vehicle designated by the secretary. Additionally, requires the secretary to require the inspection of all approved automotive emission control devices installed on motor vehicles produced after model year 1980 to insure that such devices are operative and have not been tampered with. Further specifies that low-speed vehicles are not subject to regular emissions inspections.

Proposed law modifies present law by requiring that inspections only apply to those vehicles that are required to be inspected under proposed law.

Proposed law eliminates the requirement that an owner or operator of a light trailer, utility trailer, boat trailer, or farm trailer need only provide a valid inspection sticker on demand of an inspecting officer to be in compliance with the inspection requirements of present law.

Present law (R.S. 32:1304(A)(3)(a) and (b)) authorizes the secretary to make necessary rules and regulations for the administration and enforcement of present law, and to designate any periods of time during which owners of vehicles, must display upon such vehicles certificates of inspection and approval or must produce the same on demand of any officer or employee of the department designated by the secretary or any police or peace officer when authorized by the secretary.

Present law (R.S. 32:1304(B)) requires owners and operators of all motor vehicles equipped with windshields to display on the lower left hand corner of the windshield a certificate of inspection affixed thereto by a duly authorized motor vehicle inspection station. Further, requires the secretary to accept the certificate of inspection and approval issued by any municipality pursuant to any municipal ordinance adopted prior to July 27, 1960. Additionally, requires that each person who applies for a motor vehicle inspection tag in the city of New Orleans produce written proof of insurance from an insurer that the motor vehicle is covered by security and must declare in writing that he or she intends to maintain said security at all times while said vehicle is used upon the highways of La.

Proposed law applies the rules and regulations to all vehicles subject to the changes in proposed law.

Present law (R.S. 32:1306(C)(1)) requires that persons operating an official inspection station must issue a certificate of inspection and approval upon an official form to the owner of a vehicle upon inspecting such vehicle and determining that its equipment required under the provisions of present law is in good condition and proper adjustment, otherwise no certificate is allowed be issued. Additionally, requires a report to be made of every inspection and every certificate issued when required by the director.

Present law specifies that the provisions of present law not apply to the inspection programs.

Present law (R.S. 32:1306(C)(2)) requires that for each year of validity of the certificate issued, a charge or fee of \$10 be charged, \$4.75 to be retained by the operator of the motor vehicle inspection station conducting the inspection, \$4 of which must be transferred to the office of state police for use in traffic law enforcement, and \$1.25 is to be transferred to the office of motor vehicles (OMV) for expenses associated with the motor vehicle inspection and financial responsibility programs. Additionally, requires the adjustment of headlights when needed and mechanically practical, at no additional cost to the operator of the motor vehicle inspected be included in the inspection.

Proposed law deletes present law.

Present law (R.S. 32:1306(C)(3)) specifies that for parishes and municipalities that have a vehicle inspection and maintenance program required by the federal Clean Air Act (FCAA) or regulations promulgated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, an additional \$8 be charged for each inspection that includes the performance of the inspection and maintenance (I/M) program pursuant to present law, or newer model year motor vehicles. Further, specifies that motor vehicle inspection station must retain \$6 of the additional charge for implementation and performance of the I/M program. \$2 of the additional charge must be transferred to the La. Department of Environmental Quality to implement and operate the inspection and maintenance program.

Proposed law modifies present law by removing references to additional charges. Requires the department to adopt rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of present law.

Present law (R.S. 32:1306(C)(4)) requires that the maintenance and inspection program and the fees provided for in present law be discontinued when the I/M program is discontinued as allowed by the FCAA and regulations promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or agreements with the agency concerning the implementation of this program, or result in any other noncompliance.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law (R.S. 32:1306(C)(5)) requires an annual charge or fee of \$30 be charged for the inspection of all commercial motor vehicles which are required to be inspected under the provisions of present law. Further, requires that no charges or fees other than the \$30 be charged for a commercial motor vehicle inspection. Additionally, requires of the \$30 fee the motor vehicle inspection station operator who performs this inspection retain \$23.75; \$2.25 must be transferred to the OMV for expenses associated with motor vehicle and financial responsibility programs; and \$4 must be transferred to the office of state police for use in traffic law enforcement. Specifies that included in the inspection must be the adjustment of headlights at no additional cost to the operator of the motor vehicle being inspected. Further, specifies that the Legislature of La. declares that a commercial motor vehicle inspection is much more extensive than the inspection mandated in present law and that the increase in the fee or charge for the inspection of commercial vehicles is based on the difference in the two types of inspection.

Proposed law eliminates the legislature from declaring that a commercial motor vehicle inspection is much more extensive than the inspection mandated in present law and that the increase in the fee or charge for the inspection of commercial vehicles is based on the difference in the two types of inspection but otherwise retains present law.

Present law (R.S. 32:1306(C)(6)) requires the charge or fee for the inspection of student transportation vehicles that are required to be inspected under existing law, be \$20. Further, requires that no charges or fees other than \$20 fee be charged for a student transportation vehicle inspection. Additionally, requires that of the \$20 fee the motor vehicle inspection station operator who performs this inspection retains \$14.75; \$1.25 is to be transferred to the OMV for expenses associated with motor vehicle and financial responsibility programs; and \$4 to be transferred to the office of state police for use in traffic law enforcement.

Proposed law retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 32:1301, 1302, 1304(A)(1)-(3) and (B), 1306(C), and 1306.1(A); Repeals R.S. 32:707.5(D)(3) and 1303)