

SENATE BILL REPORT

HB 2359

As of February 26, 2014

Title: An act relating to exempting collectible vehicles from emission test requirements.

Brief Description: Exempting collectible vehicles from emission test requirements.

Sponsors: Representatives Kochmar, Fagan, Vick, Hurst, Kirby, Morrell, Orwall, Dahlquist, Tarleton and Freeman.

Brief History: Passed House: 2/14/14, 96-0.

Committee Activity: Transportation: 2/26/14.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Staff: Kim Johnson (786-7472)

Background: Due to certain emission and ambient air quality standards, motor vehicle emission testing is currently required in most of Clark, King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Spokane counties. Generally, vehicles that are from 5 years to 25 years old and are registered in an area that is identified as an emission contributing area must pass vehicle emission standards set by the Department of Ecology (DOE) on a biennial basis.

The following motor vehicles are exempt from the emission testing requirements:

- motor vehicles less than 5 years old and more than 25 years old;
- motor vehicles that are 2009 model year or newer;
- motor vehicles powered exclusively by electricity, propane, compressed natural gas, or liquid petroleum gas;
- motorcycles and motor-driven cycles;
- farm vehicles;
- street rod vehicles and custom vehicles;
- used vehicles that are offered for sale by a motor vehicle dealer;
- classes of motor vehicles exempted by the director of DOE; and
- hybrid motor vehicles that obtain a rating by the Environmental Protection Agency of at least 50 miles per gallon of gas during city driving.

Collectible vehicle or classic automobile insurance is offered by the insurance industry and typically has requirements in the policy regarding a limited use or mileage ceiling for the collectible vehicle, a secure garage for storing the vehicle, and proof of a second vehicle.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Summary of Bill: A collectible vehicle is defined as a vehicle that (1) is of unique or rare design, of limited production, and an object of curiosity; (2) is maintained primarily for use in car club activities, exhibitions, parades, or other functions of public interest or for a private collection, and is used only infrequently for other purposes; and (3) has collectible vehicle or classic automobile insurance coverage that restricts the collectible vehicle mileage or use, or both, and requires the owner to have another vehicle for personal use.

Collectible vehicles are exempt from emission test requirements.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony: PRO: This bill originated from a constituent request. He has a very unique vehicle that is made of aluminum and wood and it is very delicate and easily damaged in the emissions testing process. This bill is really meant to address those fragile vehicles that are only occasionally driven. In a poll of insurance companies around the state that we estimate that there would be only 750 to 1000 of these vehicles. This has been a very popular bill and I have received many emails and calls from people who are excited about this.

Persons Testifying: PRO: Representative Kochmar, prime sponsor.