

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5423

As of February 4, 2015

Title: An act relating to reducing emissions by making changes to the clean car standards and clean car program.

Brief Description: Reducing emissions by making changes to the clean car standards and clean car program.

Sponsors: Senators McCoy, Rolfes, Ranker, Jayapal, McAuliffe, Frockt and Chase; by request of Department of Ecology.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Energy, Environment & Telecommunications:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT & TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Staff: Jeff Olsen (786-7428)

Background: Under the federal Clean Air Act, states have the option to implement either federal motor vehicle emission standards or California motor vehicle emissions standards for passenger cars, light-duty trucks and medium-duty vehicles. The motor vehicle emissions standards established by California contain both low-emission and zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) requirements. In 2005 the Legislature authorized the adoption of the California motor vehicle emission standards with certain restrictions. First, the Department of Ecology (Department) is prohibited from adopting California's ZEV regulations. In addition the Department is not authorized to adopt California vehicle emissions standards for medium-duty trucks, which include most trucks weighing between 8500 and 14,000 pounds. The Department is also directed to convene an advisory group of industry and consumer group representatives during rule development, and there is a requirement for the Governor to sign the rule adoption order.

Summary of Bill: The restriction for the Department to adopt California's emissions standards for medium-duty passenger vehicles is removed, allowing for the adoption of California's standards for medium-duty trucks. In addition the restriction prohibiting the Department from adopting California's ZEV regulations is removed, allowing for the adoption of those regulations. The requirement for the Department to convene an advisory group for any proposed rulemaking and securing the Governor's signature for the order adopting the rule is eliminated.

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.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

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