

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5778

As of January 26, 2022

Title: An act relating to addressing the current backlog of vehicle inspections.

Brief Description: Addressing the current backlog of vehicle inspections.

Sponsors: Senators Braun, Honeyford, Lovick, Padden, Short and Wilson, J..

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Transportation: 1/27/22.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Requires the Washington State Patrol to allow certified local law enforcement agencies or private parties to perform vehicle identification number inspections.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Staff: Bryon Moore (786-7726)

Background: The Washington State Patrol (WSP) is required to complete a vehicle identification number (VIN) inspection when a vehicle:

- is declared a total loss or salvaged and not kept by the registered owner;
- has been rebuilt after the certificate of title was returned to the state; or
- has been presented to the state with documents that show the vehicle was a total loss or salvaged in another state and has not been reissued a valid registration certificate.

A VIN inspection is also required when certain kinds of vehicles are being titled in the state for the first time, including a kit vehicle, a homemade vehicle, a street rod, a custom vehicle, or a vehicle where there is question about the VIN documentation on the vehicle.

The VIN inspection is required by the Department of Licensing before the vehicle owner

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can receive a certificate of title. The VIN inspection fee is \$65 with \$50 being deposited into the Motor Vehicle Fund and \$15 being deposited into the State Patrol Highway Account.

Summary of Bill: By January 1, 2023, WSP must establish a voluntary process to allow local law enforcement agencies and qualified private parties to become certified and to actually perform VIN inspections.

WSP is directed to establish a certification process to ensure that any local law enforcement agency or qualified private party is able to perform the VIN inspections at a comparable level to the ones conducted by WSP and has adequate protections in place to safeguard personal and private information. WSP must establish contracts with the local law enforcement agencies or qualified private parties electing to perform VIN inspections which include cost recovery mechanisms.

By October 1, 2022, WSP must provide a report to the Joint Transportation Committee and the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee detailing the implementation plan for the voluntary VIN vehicle inspection program and the expected impact on the VIN inspection backlog.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

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