

Senate Bill No. 2185

Passed the Senate June 29, 1998

Secretary of the Senate

Passed the Assembly July 2, 1998

Chief Clerk of the Assembly

This bill was received by the Governor this ____ day
of _____, 1998, at ____ o'clock __M.

Private Secretary of the Governor

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CHAPTER ____

An act to amend Section 44015 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to air resources, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 2185, Kelley. Air pollution: motor vehicle inspection and maintenance.

Existing law establishes a motor vehicle inspection and maintenance (smog check) program, administered by the Department of Consumer Affairs; requires inspection of motor vehicles upon initial registration, biennially upon renewal of registration, upon transfer of ownership, and in certain other circumstances; and requires all motor vehicles that are registered in designated areas of the state to biennially obtain a certificate of compliance or noncompliance with motor vehicle emission standards, except for certain exempted motor vehicles. Existing law provides that a certificate of compliance or noncompliance is valid for 90 days.

This bill would provide that a certificate of compliance or noncompliance that is issued to a licensed automobile dealer is valid for 180 days.

This bill would also declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 44015 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

44015. (a) A licensed smog check station shall not issue a certificate of compliance, except as authorized by this chapter, to any vehicle that meets the following criteria:

(1) A vehicle that has been tampered with.

(2) A vehicle that, prior to repairs, has been initially identified by the smog check station as a gross polluter. Certification of a gross polluting vehicle shall be



conducted by a designated test-only facility, or a test-and-repair station that is both licensed and certified pursuant to Section 44014 and 44014.2 and is participating in the pilot program pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (g) of Section 44014.5.

(3) A vehicle described in subdivision (c).

(b) If a vehicle meets the requirements of Section 44012, a smog check station licensed to issue certificates shall issue a certificate of compliance or a certificate of noncompliance.

(c) (1) A repair cost waiver shall be issued, upon request of the vehicle owner, by an entity authorized to perform referee functions for a vehicle that has been properly tested but does not meet the applicable emission standards when it is determined that no adjustment or repair can be made that will reduce emissions from the inspected motor vehicle without exceeding the applicable repair cost limit established under Section 44017 and that every defect specified by paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 43204, and by paragraphs (2) and (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 43205, has been corrected. A repair cost waiver issued pursuant to this paragraph shall be accepted in lieu of a certificate of compliance for the purposes of compliance with Section 4000.3 of the Vehicle Code. No repair cost waiver shall exceed two years' duration. No repair cost waiver shall be issued until the vehicle owner has expended an amount equal to the applicable repair cost limit specified in Section 44017.

(2) An economic hardship extension shall be issued, upon request of a qualified low-income motor vehicle owner, by an entity authorized to perform referee functions, for a motor vehicle that has been properly tested but does not meet the applicable emission standards when it is determined that no adjustment or repair can be made that will reduce emissions from the inspected motor vehicle without exceeding the applicable repair cost limit, as established pursuant to Section 44017.1, that every defect specified in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 43204, and in paragraphs



(2) and (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 43205, has been corrected, that the low-income vehicle owner would suffer an economic hardship if the extension is not issued, and that all appropriate emissions-related repairs up to the amount of the applicable repair cost limit in Section 44017.1 have been performed.

(d) No repair cost waiver or economic hardship extension shall be issued under any of the following circumstances:

(1) If a motor vehicle was issued a repair cost waiver or economic hardship extension in the previous biennial inspection of that vehicle. A repair cost waiver or economic hardship extension may be issued to a motor vehicle owner only once for a particular motor vehicle belonging to that owner. However, a repair cost waiver or economic hardship extension may be issued for a motor vehicle that participated in a previous waiver or extension program prior to January 1, 1998, as determined by the department. For waivers or extensions issued in the program operative on or after January 1, 1998, a waiver or extension may be issued for a motor vehicle only once per owner.

(2) Upon initial registration of all of the following: a direct import motor vehicle, a motor vehicle previously registered outside this state, a dismantled motor vehicle pursuant to Section 11519 of the Vehicle Code, a motor vehicle that has had an engine change, an alternate fuel vehicle, and a specially constructed vehicle.

(e) Unless the certificate is issued to a licensed automobile dealer, a certificate of compliance or noncompliance shall be valid for 90 days. If the certificate is issued to a licensed automobile dealer, the certificate shall be valid for 180 days.

(f) A test may be made at any time within 90 days prior to the date otherwise required.

SEC. 2. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:



In order to obviate, at the earliest possible time, the necessity of retesting vehicles previously tested but that remain unsold in the licensed automobile vehicle dealer's inventory, it is necessary that this act take effect immediately.



Approved _____, 1998

Governor

