SENATE BILL NO. 869

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR GRIESHEIMER.

Read 1st time February 1, 2010, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

4834S.01I

AN ACT

To repeal section 307.365, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to the vehicle safety inspection program, with penalty provisions for a certain section.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 307.365, RSMo, is repealed and two new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 307.356 and 307.365, to read as

3 follows:

307.356. The superintendent of the Missouri state highway patrol shall issue rules and regulations prescribing the means and methods to computerize the vehicle safety inspection program to eliminate unnecessary paperwork, make Missouri vehicle safety inspections more efficient, effective, and fair, eliminate the need for inspection stickers on vehicles, and increase consumer protection and safety. Such rules and regulations shall define the equipment that official inspection stations must have and what portion, if any, of the inspection fee shall be used to cover the cost of computerizing the vehicle safety inspection program. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010 that is created under the authority delegated in this 11 section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to 13 all of the provisions of chapter 536, and, if applicable, section 14 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536, 15 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule 16 are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking

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authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2010, shall be invalid and void.

307.365. 1. No permit for an official inspection station shall be assigned or transferred or used at any location other than therein designated and every permit shall be posted in a conspicuous place at the location designated. The superintendent of the Missouri state highway patrol shall design and furnish each official inspection station, at no cost, one official sign made of metal or other durable material to be displayed in a conspicuous location to designate the station as an official inspection station. Additional signs may be obtained by an official inspection station for a fee equal to the cost to the state. Each inspection station shall also be supplied with one or more posters which must be displayed in a conspicuous location at the place of inspection and which informs the public that required repairs or corrections need not be made at the inspection station.

- 2. No person operating an official inspection station pursuant to the provisions of sections 307.350 to 307.390 may issue a certificate of inspection and approval for any vehicle except upon an official form furnished by the superintendent of the Missouri state highway patrol for that purpose and only after inspecting the vehicle and determining that its brakes, lighting equipment, signaling devices, steering mechanisms, horns, mirrors, windshield wipers, tires, wheels, exhaust system, glazing, air pollution control devices, fuel system and any other safety equipment as required by the state are in proper condition and adjustment to be operated upon the public highways of this state with safety to the driver or operator, other occupants therein, as well as other persons and property upon the highways, as provided by sections 307.350 to 307.390 and the regulations prescribed by the superintendent of the Missouri state highway patrol. Brakes may be inspected for safety by means of visual inspection or computerized brake testing. No person operating an official inspection station shall furnish, loan, give or sell a certificate of inspection and approval to any other person except those entitled to receive it under provisions of sections 307.350 to 307.390. No person shall have in such person's possession any certificate of inspection and approval and/or inspection sticker with knowledge that the certificate and/or inspection sticker has been illegally purchased, stolen or counterfeited.
- 3. The superintendent of the Missouri state highway patrol may require officially designated stations to furnish reports upon forms furnished by the superintendent for that purpose as the superintendent considers reasonably

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35 necessary for the proper and efficient administration of sections 307.350 to 36 307.390.

- 4. If, upon inspection, defects or unsafe conditions are found, the owner may correct them or shall have them corrected at any place the owner chooses within twenty days after the defect or unsafe condition is found, and shall have the right to remove the vehicle to such place for correction, but before the vehicle is operated thereafter upon the public highways of this state, a certificate of inspection and approval must be obtained. The inspecting personnel of the official inspection station must inform the owner that the corrections need not be made at the inspection station.
- 5. A fee, not to exceed [twelve] fifteen dollars, as determined by each official inspection station, may be charged by an official inspection station for each official inspection including the issuance of the certificate of inspection and approval, sticker, seal or other device and a total fee, not to exceed ten dollars, as determined by each official inspection station, may be charged for an official inspection of a trailer or motorcycle, which shall include the issuance of the certificate of inspection and approval, sticker, seal or other device. Such fee shall be conspicuously posted on the premises of each such official inspection station. No owner shall be charged an additional inspection fee upon having corrected defects or unsafe conditions found in an inspection completed within the previous twenty consecutive days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, if such follow-up inspection is made by the station making the initial inspection. Every inspection for which a fee is charged shall be a complete inspection, and upon completion of the inspection, if any defects are found the owner of the vehicle shall be furnished a list of the defects and a receipt for the fee paid for the inspection. If the owner of a vehicle decides to have any necessary repairs or corrections made at the official inspection station, the owner shall be furnished a written estimate of the cost of such repairs before such repairs or corrections are made by the official inspection station. The written estimate shall have plainly written upon it that the owner understands that the corrections need not be made by the official inspection station and shall have a signature line for the owner. The owner must sign below the statement on the signature line before any repairs are made.
- 6. Certificates of inspection and approval, sticker, seal or other device shall be purchased by the official inspection stations from the superintendent of the Missouri state highway patrol. The superintendent of the Missouri state

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highway patrol shall collect a fee of [one dollar and fifty cents] two dollars for each certificate of inspection, sticker, seal or other device issued to the official inspection stations, except that no charge shall be made for certificates of 74inspection, sticker, seal or other device issued to official inspection stations operated by governmental entities. All fees collected shall be deposited in the state treasury with one dollar and fifty cents of each fee collected credited to the state highway fund and, for the purpose of administering and enforcing the state motor vehicle laws and traffic regulations, fifty cents credited to the "Highway Patrol Inspection Fund" which is hereby created. The moneys collected and deposited in the highway patrol inspection fund shall be expended subject to appropriations by the general assembly for the administration and enforcement of sections 307.350 to 307.390 by the Missouri state highway patrol. The unexpended balance in the fund at the end of each biennium exceeding the amount of the appropriations from the fund for the first two fiscal years shall be transferred to the state road fund, and the provisions of section 33.080, RSMo, relating to the transfer of funds to the general revenue fund at the end of the biennium, shall not apply to the fund.

- 7. The owner or operator of any inspection station who discontinues operation during the period that a station permit is valid or whose station permit is suspended or revoked shall return all official signs and posters and any current unused inspection stickers, seals or other devices to the superintendent of the Missouri state highway patrol and shall receive a full refund on request except for official signs and posters, provided the request is made during the calendar year or within sixty days thereafter in the manner prescribed by the superintendent of the Missouri state highway patrol. Stations which have a valid permit shall exchange unused previous year issue inspection stickers and/or decals for an identical number of current year issue, provided the unused stickers and/or decals are submitted for exchange not later than April thirtieth of the current calendar year, in the manner prescribed by the superintendent of the Missouri state highway patrol.
- 101 8. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 307.390 to the contrary, a 102 violation of this section shall be a class C misdemeanor.