
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair

2025 - 2026 Regular Session

SB 1392 (Cortese) - Smog check: exemption: collector motor vehicles

Version: April 15, 2026

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: May 14, 2026

Policy Vote: TRANS. 10 - 2

Mandate: No

Consultant: Mark McKenzie

Bill Summary: SB 1392 would provide a full exemption from smog check requirements for collector motor vehicles manufactured before the 1981 model year, and extend the applicability of this exemption by one model year each year, from 2028 through 2032, such that the exemption would eventually apply to collector vehicles manufactured before the 1986 model year. The bill would also change the definition of “collector vehicle” to remove the requirement that the vehicle be owned by a collector, as specified.

***** ANALYSIS ADDENDUM – SUSPENSE FILE *****

The following information is revised to reflect amendments
adopted by the committee on May 14, 2026

Fiscal Impact:

- The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) would incur unknown one-time costs, likely in the mid- to high-hundreds of thousands of dollars, to make IT system changes to allow for the modification of vehicle registration and vehicle transfer service channels to allow a registered owner to certify that the vehicle is identified as a “collector motor vehicle,” as specified. DMV is currently unable to provide a precise cost estimate because implementation efforts would overlap with the rollout of current IT modernization efforts. Staff notes that DMV would be unable to make the necessary programming changes by the operative date of this bill. (Motor Vehicle Account)
- Unknown ongoing DMV workload costs, likely in the low hundreds of thousands of dollars annually, to process smog check waivers for collector motor vehicles. (Motor Vehicle Account)
- Unknown annual loss of smog certification fee revenues, depending on the number of vehicles that are designated as collector motor vehicles eligible for the smog check exemption established by this bill. This amount would grow annually thereafter for five years as an additional model year would be eligible for the “rolling” exemption each year until January 1, 2032. Eventually the annual revenue losses would likely be in the low hundreds of thousands of dollars. (Vehicle Inspection and Repair Fund -- VIRF)
- The California Air Resources Board (CARB) could incur costs to quantify foregone emission reductions as a result of this bill, and it may result in cost pressures of an unknown, but potentially significant amount, to the extent CARB needs to achieve emissions reductions from other sectors to make up for foregone emissions reductions. (VIRF)

Committee Amendments: Revise the definition of “collector vehicle” to require that the vehicle is either insured as a collector motor vehicle with proof of insurance submitted to DMV at the time of registration, or determined through a process developed by DMV to be driven fewer than 1,000 miles per calendar year in California.

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