

## CHAPTER 110

### MOTOR VEHICLES

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#### 110.001 Definitions. In this chapter:

- (1) ~~“Department” means department of transportation.~~  
 (1m) ~~“Law enforcement officer” has the meaning given in s. 967.02 (5).~~  
 (2) ~~“Secretary” means secretary of transportation.~~  
 History: 1977 c. 29; 1993 a. 25.

**110.01 Definitions.** Words and phrases defined in chs. 340 to 349 have the same meaning in this chapter unless a different meaning is expressly provided or the context clearly indicates a different meaning.

History: 1975 c. 120.

**110.015 Facsimile signature.** The secretary and division administrators of the department of transportation, through their authorized employees, may execute or affix their signature, by facsimile signature with a stamp, reproduction print or other similar process to all licenses, notices, orders, administrative letters, contracts, permits, offers to purchase, appraisals, certifications of records, service of legal papers or process on the administrators, and other legal instruments under the statutes which the secretary and division administrators are authorized or required to administer.

**110.05 Inspection of human service vehicles.** (1) The department shall adopt and enforce such rules as the department deems necessary in the interests of the safety of persons being transported to cover the design, construction, equipment, inspection and operation of human service vehicles.

(2) The owner of the human service vehicle shall have the vehicle inspected at least annually by the department or a certified law enforcement officer for compliance with the requirements of s. 110.075, ch. 347 and any rules promulgated under this section.

(3) Vehicles required to be inspected under sub. (2) which were in service prior to March 28, 1984, need only be in compliance with the requirements of ch. 347, 1981 stats.

(4) Any person violating this section, or rules promulgated pursuant thereto, may be required to forfeit not less than \$50 nor more than \$200.

History: 1983 a. 175 ss. 2, 25.

Cross-reference: See also ch. Trans 301, Wis. adm. code.

**110.06 Rules; school bus presale inspection; penalties.** (2) The secretary shall adopt and enforce such rules as he or she deems necessary in the interests of safety to cover the design, construction, inspection and operation of school buses. Such rules may, but need not, be uniform for each type of bus designated in s. 340.01 (56) (a) and (am).

(3) (a) Any person intending to purchase a motor vehicle to be used as a school bus shall prior to purchase give the seller notice in writing of the intended use.

(b) Prior to the use of a motor vehicle as a school bus, the seller shall obtain a presale inspection of the vehicle by the department verifying compliance with the rules relating to design and construction prescribed by the department under sub. (2). A copy of

the presale inspection report shall be provided to the purchaser at the time of delivery.

(c) The seller of any such vehicle who fails to obtain a presale inspection prior to delivery shall be liable to the purchaser for all repairs and improvements required by the department to bring the vehicle into compliance with the rules relating to design and construction prescribed by the department under sub. (2) for a period of one year after the delivery.

(d) Notwithstanding par. (b), the purchaser may agree to obtain the presale inspection provided that notice of the agreement is included in the offer to purchase and is agreed to by the seller. The seller is liable for any repairs and improvements necessary to comply with the rules relating to design and construction prescribed by the department under sub. (2).

(e) Any person violating par. (b) shall forfeit \$100 for the first offense and \$200 for the 2nd and each subsequent offense.

(4) Violations of those orders, determinations and rules pertaining to chs. 115 to 118, 120, 121 and 341 to 349 shall be punished as provided by s. 341.04 (3) and those pertaining to ch. 194 as provided by s. 194.17.

(5) The orders, determinations and rules made by the secretary are subject to review in the manner provided in ch. 227.

History: 1975 c. 429; 1977 c. 29 ss. 1047, 1654 (7) (a), (c); 1977 c. 325; 1979 c. 154; 1983 a. 175, 538; 1985 a. 287.

Cross-reference: See also chs. Trans 131 and 300, Wis. adm. code.

**110.063 Inspection of motor buses.** (1) The department shall promulgate and enforce such rules as the department deems necessary in the interests of the safety of persons being transported to cover the design, construction, equipment, inspection and operation of motor buses.

(2) (a) Except as provided in par. (c), the owner of the motor bus shall have it inspected annually by the department for compliance with the requirements of s. 110.075 and ch. 347 and rules promulgated thereunder and any rules promulgated under this section.

(b) The department shall specify by rule a fee for the inspection required under this subsection equal to the cost of the inspection.

(c) Paragraph (a) does not apply to a motor bus which is operated by an urban mass transit system, as defined in s. 85.20 (1) (L), if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

1. The urban mass transit system regularly inspects the motor bus at least annually.

2. The urban mass transit system submits the record of inspection of the motor bus to the department annually for examination.

3. Review of the record of inspection of the motor bus by the department indicates that the motor bus is in compliance with the requirements of s. 110.075 and ch. 347 and rules promulgated thereunder and any rules promulgated under this section.

(3) Any person who violates this section or rules promulgated under this section may be required to forfeit not less than \$50 nor more than \$200.

History: 1987 a. 235.

Cross-reference: See also chs. Trans 300 and 330, Wis. adm. code.

~~any information system in which is stored information maintained by the division of the department responsible for issuing operator's licenses and identification cards, that any person to whom access is granted submit to a background investigation as provided in this subsection. Notwithstanding ss. 111.321, 111.322, and 111.335, the department shall require the employer, including any state agency, of any person to whom the information will be made available to conduct the background investigation in a manner prescribed by the department. The department may require, as part of this background investigation, that the person be fingerprinted in the manner described in sub. (1) (a) and that these fingerprints be provided to the department of justice for submission to the federal bureau of investigation for the purposes of verifying the identity of the person fingerprinted and obtaining records of his or her criminal arrests and convictions. Notwithstanding ss. 111.321, 111.322, and 111.335, the department shall require that the employer certify the results of the background investigation and, based upon these results, may deny or restrict access to any information requested. In addition to the initial background investigation required under this subsection, the department may require on a periodic basis subsequent background investigations consistent with this subsection for persons with ongoing access to information. Any cost associated with the requirements under this subsection is the responsibility of the employer. For purposes of this subsection, "employer" includes a self-employed person. The department shall promulgate rules governing background investigations, and confidentiality of information obtained, under this subsection.~~

~~History: 2007 a. 20.~~

**110.10 Ignition interlock device program.** ~~The department shall promulgate rules providing for the implementation of an ignition interlock device program that will be conveniently available to persons throughout this state. The rules shall include provisions regarding all of the following:~~

~~(1) The selection of persons to install, service and remove ignition interlock devices from motor vehicles.~~

~~(2) The periodic review of the fees charged to the owner of a vehicle for the installation, service and removal of an ignition interlock device.~~

~~(3) Requiring ignition interlock device providers operating in this state to establish pilot programs involving the voluntary use of ignition interlock devices.~~

~~(4) Requiring ignition interlock device providers operating in this state to provide the department and law enforcement agencies designated by the department with installation, service, tampering and failure reports in a timely manner.~~

~~(4m) Requiring ignition interlock device providers operating in this state to accept, as payment in full for equipping a motor vehicle with an ignition interlock device and for maintaining the ignition interlock device, the amount ordered by the court under s. 343.301 (3) (b), if applicable.~~

~~(5) Requiring ignition interlock device providers to notify the department of any ignition interlock device tampering, circumvention, bypass or violation resets, including all relevant data recorded in the device's memory. Upon receiving notice described in this subsection, the department shall immediately provide the notice and data to the assessment agency that is administering the violator's driver safety plan.~~

~~History: 1999 a. 109, 186; 2009 a. 100.~~

~~Cross-reference: See also ch. Trans 313, Wis. adm. code.~~

**110.20 Motor vehicle emission inspection and maintenance program.** (1) **DEFINITIONS.** In this section, unless the context requires otherwise:

(ac) "Air pollution control equipment" has the meaning given in s. 285.30 (6) (a) 1.

(am) "Federal act" means the federal clean air act, 42 USC 7401 et seq., and regulations issued by the federal environmental protection agency under that act.

(b) "Nonexempt vehicle" means any motor vehicle as defined under s. 340.01 (35) which is owned by the United States or which is required to be registered in this state and to which one or more emission limitations adopted under s. 285.30 (2) applies.

(c) "Nontransient emissions inspection" means an emissions inspection conducted on a vehicle without the use of a chassis dynamometer to vary vehicle engine loads.

(2) **PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.** The department shall establish an inspection and maintenance program as provided in this section.

(3) **PURPOSE.** (a) The inspection and maintenance program shall be designed to determine compliance with the emission limitations promulgated under s. 285.30 (2) and compliance with s. 285.30 (6).

(c) The inspection and maintenance program may be designed to provide information on the fuel efficiency of nonexempt vehicles.

(d) The inspection and maintenance program shall be designed and operated to comply with the requirements of the federal act.

(4) **DEPARTMENTAL COOPERATION.** The department shall consult and cooperate with the department of natural resources in order to efficiently and fairly establish and administer the program established under this section.

(5) **COUNTIES.** The department shall operate the inspection and maintenance program in each of the following counties:

(a) Any county identified in a certification under s. 285.30 (3). The department shall terminate the program in the county when the county is withdrawn under s. 285.30 (4). If the program is being operated under contract, termination shall occur at the end of the contractual period in effect.

(b) Any county whose board of supervisors has adopted a resolution requesting the department to establish an inspection and maintenance program in the county for the purpose of improving ambient air quality beyond the standards mandated by section 7409 of the federal act. The department shall terminate the program in the county when the county board adopts a resolution requesting termination of the program. If the program is being operated under contract, termination shall occur at the end of the contractual period in effect.

(6) **MANDATORY INSPECTION.** (a) The program shall require an emissions inspection under sub. (11) of any nonexempt vehicle customarily kept in a county identified in sub. (5) as follows:

1. For a nonexempt vehicle required to be registered on an annual or other periodic basis in this state, within the period of time specified by the department under sub. (9) (d) prior to renewal of registration in the 4th year after the nonexempt vehicle's model year and every 2 years thereafter, except as provided in sub. (9) (j).

2. For a nonexempt vehicle required to be registered on an annual or other periodic basis in this state, within the period of time specified by the department under sub. (9) (d) of registration other than renewal if the year of registration is at least 6 years after the nonexempt vehicle's model year.

3. For a nonexempt vehicle that is registered under s. 341.26 (2m), owned by the United States or subject to one-time registration, at any time during the 4th year following the nonexempt vehicle's model year and every 2 years thereafter.

4. For a nonexempt vehicle, whenever the owner of the vehicle is notified under sub. (9) (g) that an emissions inspection must be performed.

(b) The program shall require an air pollution control equipment inspection to determine compliance with s. 285.30 (6) of any nonexempt vehicle customarily kept in a county identified in sub. (5) whenever a nontransient emissions inspection is performed or at the time of application for a waiver under sub. (13).

(6m) **PROHIBITED INSPECTIONS.** The department may not require an emissions inspection of any vehicle prior to the inspection of the vehicle scheduled under sub. (6) (a) 1. or (9) (d) or (j)

if an interest in the vehicle is transferred to a surviving spouse under s. 342.17 (4).

(7) **VOLUNTARY INSPECTIONS.** The inspection and maintenance program shall require inspection of any nonexempt vehicle which a person presents for inspection at an inspection station or at any other location where, as established under sub. (8) (bm), the vehicle may be inspected.

(8) **CONTRACTORS AND OTHER INSPECTION METHODS.** (am) 1. The emissions test and equipment inspection of nonexempt vehicles may be performed by persons under contract with the department. Each such contract shall require the contractor to operate inspection stations, which may be permanent or mobile, for a minimum of 3 years and shall provide for equitable compensation to the contractor if the operation of an inspection and maintenance program within any county is terminated within 3 years after the inspection and maintenance program in the county is begun. No officer, director or employee of the contractor may be an employee of the department. The department may contract with any person, including any person engaged in the business of selling, maintaining, or repairing motor vehicles or of selling motor vehicle replacement or repair parts. The department shall require the contractor to operate a sufficient number of inspection stations, permanent or mobile, to ensure public convenience in those counties identified under sub. (5).

1m. Each contract under subd. 1. may authorize or require the contractor to install and operate self-service inspection stations and may allow the use of different methods for emissions testing and equipment inspection, consistent with methods established under par. (bm), than those used at inspection stations that are not self-service.

2. The department may require the contractor to test the fuel efficiency of nonexempt vehicles during emission inspections.

3. The department may delegate to the contractor specified registration functions of the department under ch. 341. The department may direct the contractor to perform specified registration functions under ch. 341.

4. The department may delegate to the contractor functions associated with the issuance of a temporary operating permit under sub. (10) (b) or the waiver of compliance under sub. (13) (a) or both.

6. The contractor shall collect, maintain and report data as the department requires. The department shall reserve the right to enter and inspect test station premises, equipment and records at all reasonable times in the discharge of its administrative duties.

7. Each contract under subd. 1. may authorize the contractor to enter into subcontracts for the performance of any of the contractor's functions or duties under the contract. In performing any such function or duty, a subcontractor shall comply with all requirements applicable to the contractor. With the department's approval, the contractor may subcontract with any person engaged in the business of selling, maintaining, or repairing motor vehicles or of selling motor vehicle replacement or repair parts.

8. Each contract under subd. 1. shall require that, if an emissions inspection is performed by a contractor or subcontractor engaged in the business of selling, maintaining, or repairing motor vehicles or of selling motor vehicle replacement or repair parts and the inspection shows that the vehicle does not comply with applicable emission limitations, the contractor or subcontractor shall advise the vehicle owner as specified in sub. (12).

(bm) The emissions test and equipment inspection of nonexempt vehicles may be performed by the department or by persons who are not under contract with the department but who are otherwise authorized by the department to perform such testing and inspection. The department may establish methods for emissions testing and equipment inspection by the department or other authorized persons of nonexempt vehicles, in addition to testing and inspection by contractors. These methods may include the installation and operation by the department or other authorized persons of self-service inspection stations and the utilization of

any technology related to emissions or data transmission with which motor vehicles may be equipped, including reading and reporting diagnostic codes stored in any on-board diagnostic system capable of monitoring all emission-related engine systems or components. The department may establish methods for emissions testing and equipment inspection specifically applicable to self-service inspection stations, which methods shall apply equally to self-service inspection stations operated by contractors under par. (am) 1m. and self-service inspection stations operated under this paragraph.

(c) 1. Notwithstanding subs. (5), (6), and (9) (d), the department of transportation may, with concurrence of the department of natural resources, grant a temporary exemption for nonexempt vehicles during any period in which the department of transportation is unable to operate an inspection and maintenance program. An exemption granted under this subdivision is valid until the next required inspection of the vehicle required under sub. (6), or until the time given by the department of transportation to complete inspection of the vehicle, whichever occurs first. Notwithstanding subs. (7) and (10m), the department of transportation may deny requests for inspection during any period in which exemptions are granted under this subdivision.

2. For purposes of ss. 341.04 (1), 341.09 (2m) (a) 1. b. and 2. and (9), and 341.65 (2) (e) 2m., an inspection under this section is not required during any period in which a temporary exemption is granted under subd. 1. For purposes of ss. 341.09 (5), 341.10 (10) (intro.), 341.26 (2m) (am), and 341.63 (1) (e), a vehicle does not require inspection under sub. (6) during any period in which a temporary exemption is granted under subd. 1.

(9) **RULES.** The department shall promulgate rules which:

(a) Specify procedures for the inspection of vehicles, including the method of measuring emissions, the types of equipment which may be used in performing the measurements and the calibration requirements for the equipment. The procedures and methods shall be capable of being correlated with the federal test procedures established under section 7525 of the federal act.

(b) Prescribe a procedure for determining whether the cost of necessary repairs and adjustments exceeds the limit under sub. (13).

(c) Specify procedures under which a vehicle may be refused inspection for safety reasons or for defects which would result in inaccurate measurement of emissions.

(d) Specify a period of time during which an emissions inspection must be performed for a nonexempt vehicle subject to sub. (6) (a) 1. or 2.

(e) Prescribe a procedure for conducting all federally required performance audits of inspection and maintenance program operations and personnel and all enforcement against contractors, and other persons authorized by the department to perform testing and inspection, required by 40 CFR 51.364.

(f) Establish a performance monitoring system to inform the public regarding repair efficacy.

(g) Prescribe a procedure for remote sensing of not less than 0.5 percent of nonexempt vehicles and, for such vehicles that grossly exceed applicable emission limitations, as determined by the department, notifying vehicle owners by mail that an emissions inspection must be performed under sub. (6) (a) 4.

(h) Provide procedures for identifying any nonexempt vehicle subject to a recall by the manufacturer of the vehicle that is related to emissions and ensuring motorist compliance with the recall.

(i) Provide a procedure for detecting and preventing the fraudulent classification of any nonexempt vehicle as a vehicle that is not a nonexempt vehicle.

(j) Prescribe an annual frequency for inspection for any model year subset of nonexempt vehicles if the department determines annual inspection to be appropriate after additional program evaluation.

(k) Prescribe a procedure for any method for emissions testing and equipment inspection established under sub. (8) (bm).

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(L) Prescribe procedures for authorizing persons other than contractors, subcontractors of contractors, or the department to perform emission testing and equipment inspection as provided under sub. (8) (bm).

(m) Require each person engaged in the business of selling, maintaining, or repairing motor vehicles or of selling motor vehicle replacement or repair parts, in a county identified in sub. (5), that performs emissions inspections to collect and periodically report to the department information related to vehicle repairs and reinspections after the vehicle has failed an inspection test, including the repairs performed, any technician recommended repairs not performed at the owner's request, the name and address of the facility that performed the repairs, the name of the individual who performed the repairs, and, if applicable, the identification number of the recognized repair facility or recognized automotive emission repair technician, or both, that performed the repairs. The reports shall also include compiled information containing the number of vehicles submitted for reinspection and percentages indicating the number of vehicles that passed, failed, and received waivers after repair following a failed inspection test. The department shall make information gathered from these reports available to the public.

(n) Prescribe procedures for granting temporary exemptions under sub. (8) (c) 1.

**(10) RECIPROCITY; TEMPORARY OPERATING PERMIT AND EXEMPTIONS.** The department may promulgate rules which:

(a) Authorize the acceptance of an inspection performed in another state instead of an inspection required under this section if the inspection in the other state was performed under procedures, requirements and standards comparable to those required under this section and it satisfies the requirements of the federal act.

(b) Authorize the issuance of a temporary operating permit, valid for not more than 30 days, to allow time for inspection and necessary repairs and adjustments of any motor vehicle subject to inspection under sub. (6).

(c) Permit a temporary exemption for nonexempt vehicles absent from an emissions inspection area.

(d) Authorize the issuance of a certificate of compliance for nonexempt vehicles that fail the inspection tests under sub. (11) (a) for applicable emission limitations but complete a comprehensive physical and functional diagnostic inspection which indicates that no adjustments or repairs will bring the vehicle into compliance with applicable emissions limitations.

**(10m) REINSPECTION.** The owner of a nonexempt vehicle inspected under this section is entitled, if the inspection determines that any applicable emission limitation is exceeded, to one reinspection of the same vehicle at any inspection station within this state operated by a contractor under sub. (8) (am), or at any other location where, as established under sub. (8) (bm), the vehicle was initially inspected, if the reinspection takes place within 30 days after the initial inspection or the owner presents satisfactory evidence that the repairs and adjustments which were performed on the vehicle could not have been made within 30 days of the initial inspection.

**(11) INSPECTION TESTS; RESULTS.** (a) A contractor shall perform the tests required under the federal act, and any testing and inspection method established under sub. (8) (bm) shall include the tests required under the federal act. The tests shall include one of the approved short tests required by the federal act to determine compliance with applicable emission limitations for carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons and oxides of nitrogen. The department may require contractors to provide information on the fuel efficiency of the motor vehicle.

(b) The department shall require each contractor to furnish the results of the emissions inspection in writing to the person presenting the vehicle for inspection before he or she departs from the inspection station. For emissions inspections not conducted by a

contractor, the department shall require any testing and inspection method established under sub. (8) (bm) to include the contemporaneous furnishing of the results of the emissions inspection in writing to the person having the vehicle inspected. If the inspection shows that the vehicle does not comply with one or more applicable emissions limitations, the results shall include, to the extent possible, a description of the noncompliance and the adjustments or repairs likely to be needed for compliance.

(c) No person may knowingly do any of the following:

1. Alter data from an inspection test under sub. (6).
2. Submit a false report of data from an inspection test required under sub. (6).
3. Attribute data from an inspection test under sub. (6) to a vehicle other than the vehicle tested.

**(12) REPAIRS.** Repairs or adjustments necessary to bring a vehicle into compliance with applicable emissions limitations are the responsibility of the vehicle owner and may be made by the owner or any person selected by the owner. If the emissions inspection is performed in a county identified in sub. (5) by a person engaged in the business of selling, maintaining, or repairing motor vehicles or of selling motor vehicle replacement or repair parts and the vehicle fails the inspection test, then after the failed test the person shall advise the vehicle owner that the owner is not required to have any repair or adjustment necessary to bring the vehicle into compliance made by, or to purchase any necessary service or part from, the person and has the right to select a vendor of the owner's own choice. For a nonexempt vehicle with a model year of 1981 or later, only repairs performed by automotive repair technicians, as defined by the department by rule, shall be valid for the issuance of a waiver of compliance under sub. (13).

**(13) REPAIR COST LIMIT.** (a) The department shall issue a waiver of compliance valid until the next required inspection of the vehicle under sub. (6) if the owner presents satisfactory evidence to the department that the actual costs of repairs performed on a vehicle in accordance with an inspection report under sub. (11) (b) exceeded the repair cost limit established under par. (b).

(b) The department of natural resources shall, by rule, establish the amount of the repair cost limit to equal the amount required under 42 USC 7511a (b) 4. or (c) (3) (C).

(c) In determining the costs of repairs and adjustments included in the repair cost limit, the following costs shall be excluded:

1. Costs covered by any warranty.
2. Costs necessary to repair or replace any emissions control system or mechanism which has been removed, dismantled or rendered inoperative in violation of s. 285.30 (6) or rules promulgated under that section.

**(14g) USE OF STATE SUPPORTED REVENUE BORROWING.** The department may not use state supported revenue borrowing for the inspection and maintenance program without the approval of the joint committee on finance.

**(15) PENALTY.** (a) Except as provided in par. (b), any person who violates this section or rules promulgated under this section may be required to forfeit not more than \$500.

(b) 1. An individual who performs a test under sub. (11) (a) and violates sub. (11) (c) is guilty of a Class H felony.

2. The employer of an individual who performs a test under sub. (11) (a) and who violates sub. (11) (c) may be required to forfeit not more than \$500.

**History:** 1979 c. 274; 1981 c. 20; 1983 a. 27; 1987 a. 27, 218; 1989 a. 56; 1991 a. 39, 302; 1993 a. 16, 288, 491; 1995 a. 227; 1997 a. 46; 2001 a. 16; 2003 a. 220; 2005 a. 49; 2007 a. 20; 2009 a. 228; 2013 a. 163, 368.

**Cross-reference:** See also ch. Trans 131, Wis. adm. code.

**110.21 Education and training related to motor vehicle emissions.** ~~The department and its contractors under s. 110.20 (8) (am) shall conduct a program of public education related to the motor vehicle emission and equipment inspection and maintenance program established under s. 110.20 (6). The program~~