March 24, 2009

S 826. MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTION PROGRAM CHANGES. Filed 3/24/09. TO ALLOW THE DIVISION TO REFUSE TO REGISTER A VEHICLE IF THE VEHICLE IS NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE INSPECTIONS REQUIREMENTS, TO CREATE A TEN-DAY WINDOW FOR INSPECTING NEW AND USED VEHICLES REGISTERED IN THIS STATE, TO REQUIRE PROOF OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR A THREE-DAY TRIP PERMIT, AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CHANGES TO THE INSPECTION PROGRAM STATUTES.

Amends GS 20-54(6) to clarify that the provision applies to all vehicle inspection requirements, not just emission inspection requirements. Amends GS 20-183.4C to permit new or used vehicles acquired from outside the state, and vehicles owned by a new resident of the state who transfers registration to this state, to be inspected within 10 days after (was, "before") the vehicle is registered in this state. Requires three-day trip permits authorizing the driving of a vehicle to a repair shop or inspection station to be conditioned on proof of financial responsibility. Permits the Division of Motor Vehicles to issue a temporary exemption from inspection requirements for any vehicle principally garaged and primarily operated outside a county subject to emissions inspection requirements, or if subject to safety inspection, outside of the state, when no comparable inspection program is available. Requires exempted vehicles to be inspected within 30 days of returning to the county subject to emissions inspection requirements, or if subject to a safety inspection, this state. Amends GS 20-183.7 to rename the Emissions Program Account the Inspection Program Account. Makes conforming and technical changes to GS 20-183.8A. Effective December 1, 2009, adds GS 20-183.8H to make a violation of Division rules implementing the inspection program a Class 3 misdement.

Intro. by Jenkins. GS 20