

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill allows school buses and Head Start vehicles to be inspected by persons certified by the Department of Public Safety.

Section

1 **School bus inspection.** Specifies who may perform mandatory annual inspection of school buses and Head Start vehicles. Under present law annual inspection and certification may only be made by members of the State Patrol.

Subdivision 1. Annual requirement. Deletes the requirement that only the State Patrol may conduct annual inspections of school buses.

Subd. 1a. Inspector certification. Allows annual inspection of school buses to be performed by Department of Public Safety employees or other persons who have been certified by the commissioner after State Patrol training. Provides that a person who is not a DPS employee may be certified if the person is:

- an owner of one or more school buses or Head Start buses, or employee of an owner
- an employee of a school district or nonpublic school that owns school buses
- a school bus or Head Start vehicle dealer

Section

- a person in the business of repairing and servicing school buses and Head Start vehicles

Makes certification effective for two years. Allows the department to require biennial training of inspectors. Allows a fee of up to \$10 for the inspector certificate. Allows inspectors to charge a reasonable fee for each inspection.

Allows the department to classify vehicles for inspection purposes and issue separate classes of inspector certificates, based on whether the inspector may inspect only those vehicles the inspector owns or leases or may inspect any vehicle regardless of ownership.

Provides for suspension of certificate for failure to meet annual certification requirements. Provides for revocation of certificate for issuing an inspection decal if the inspector knew or should have known that the vehicle was in out-of-service condition.

Subd. 1b. Report. Requires an inspector to issue a report to the vehicle owner for each vehicle inspected.

Subd. 2. Decal. Deletes reference to State Patrol inspection. Changes inspection certificate to inspection decal.

Subd. 3. Rules. Makes a cross-reference.

Subd. 4. Violation. No change.

Subd. 5. Random inspection. Deletes reference to State Patrol inspection.