

Legislation and Regulations Update

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Bureau of Automotive Repair

Important Legislative Dates

- **September 30, 2024** – Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills
- **January 1, 2025** – Statutes take effect

Disclaimer: Though every effort is made to ensure information provided on the following slides is current, given the nature of the legislative process, hearing dates or bill summaries shown here may not reflect the latest updates. Please be sure to check www.leginfo.legislature.ca.gov for the most current bill information.

2024 Legislative Bills

Signed Bills

- AB 1901 (Chen): Total Loss Claims
- SB 1526 (Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development): Technical Clean-up

Vetoed Bills

- SB 301 (Portantino): Zero-Emission Aftermarket Conversion Project (*2-year bill*)
- SB 615 (Allen): Vehicle Traction Batteries (*2-year bill*)

Bills that died

- AB 2188 (Ta): Pollution Control Devices

AB 1901 (Chen): Total Loss Claims

- Status: Approved by the Governor and filed with the Secretary of State on September 22, 2024.
- Summary: This bill authorizes an insurance company to direct a salvage pool or occupational licensee to release a vehicle that is the subject of a total loss claim to the owner or lienholder of the vehicle after notice from the insurance company authorizing the release. The bill requires the salvage pool or occupational licensee to send notices to the vehicle's owner informing them of their right to pick up the vehicle from the salvage pool or occupational licensee within a specified time frame before the vehicle is deemed abandoned and the vehicle's certificate of title to be deemed to be assigned to the salvage pool or occupational licensee of the department.

SB 1526 (Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development): Technical Clean-up

- Status: Approved by the Governor and filed with the Secretary of State on September 22, 2024.
- Summary: This bill changes “bureau-approved educational certifications” to “bureau-accepted educational certifications.”

This change more accurately reflect the process that the Bureau uses to recognize on the application for an automotive repair dealer registration other types of educational certifications that are not nationally recognized and industry accepted. Upon collecting educational certifications from ARDs on either an initial or renewal application, the Bureau will add this information to its online Auto Shop Locator.

Regulations Adopted in 2024

- Vehicle Safety Systems Inspection Program
 - Adopted and effective on March 27, 2024
- Updated Smog Check Inspection Equipment and Station Requirements (DAD 2.0)
 - Adopted on May 28, 2024
 - Effective on July 1, 2024
- Consumer Assistance Program Incentive Increases
 - Adopted on September 4, 2024
 - Effective on January 1, 2025

Pending Regulation Packages

- Smog Check Readiness Monitor Limits
- Tear Down Disclosure Requirements for Automotive Repair Dealers
- Storage and Towing Fees Charged by Automotive Repair Dealers

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Smog Check Readiness Monitor Limits

- Purpose: (1) Prohibit a vehicle from passing an OBD-II inspection if the vehicle's OBD-II system reports not-complete readiness status for gasoline-powered vehicles model-years 1996 and newer and diesel-powered vehicles model-years 1998 and newer. (2) Remove outdated subdivisions.
- Status: The package was submitted to the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (Agency) for review and approval.
- Next Steps: File with the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) and begin the 45-day public comment period.

Tear Down Disclosure Requirements for Automotive Repair Dealers

- Purpose: Add and amend definitions relating to disclosure requirements for automotive repair dealers.
 - Clarify estimate work order requirements that require a vehicle tear down.
 - Require ARDs to include payment amounts of third-party payors on the estimate prior to authorization of work.
- History: Public workshop held on October 19, 2023.
- Status: The package was submitted to Agency for review and approval.
- Next Steps: File with OAL and begin the 45-day public comment period.

Storage and Towing Fees Charged by Automotive Repair Dealers (1 of 2)

- Purpose: Bring together existing laws governing storage and towing fees from the Business and Professions, Civil, Insurance, and Vehicle Codes under one unified regulatory section providing that:
 - Fees charged for the storage and towing of a motor vehicle shall be reasonable.
 - If an ARD stores vehicles, when storage fees may be charged, and where the vehicle may be stored.
 - An ARD must provide an itemized estimate and invoice for storage and towing fees.
 - An ARD that provides storage services shall post their current daily storage fee rate in an area frequented by customers and provide the Bureau with their daily storage rate annually when renewing their registration.
 - An ARD that provides towing services shall display the Towing and Storage Fees Access Notice in an area of the business facility, in plain view of the public and have copies available to the public.

Storage and Towing Fees Charged by Automotive Repair Dealers (2 of 2)

- History: Public workshops held on April 25, 2024 and July 18, 2024.
- Status: BAR is working to finalize the initial package.
- Next Steps: Hold public workshop on October 17, 2024 and submit initial package to DCA and Agency for review and approval.

Contact Information

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