

Legislation and regulations update

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Bureau of Automotive Repair

Important notice

The information in this presentation is current as of October 12, 2026. Because legislative and regulatory activities are subject to change, details such as bill summaries, dates, or regulation status may not reflect the most recent updates.

For the latest information, please visit:

- **Legislation:** www.leginfo.legislature.ca.gov
- **Regulations:** www.bar.ca.gov/regulatory-actions

Important legislative dates

- **September 30, 2026** – Last day for the Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature
- **January 1, 2027** – Statutes (bills signed into law) take effect, unless a later date set (e.g., SB 1392)

2026 legislative bills

- Signed bills
 - **Senate Bill (SB) 988** (Grayson): California Motor Vehicle Glass Act
 - **SB 1392** (Cortese/Grove): Smog Check Exemption for Collector Motor Vehicles
 - **SB 1445** (Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development): Electronic Documentation
- Bills that died in committee
 - **SB 1112** (Archuleta): Towing Companies and Storage Facilities

SB 988 (Grayson): California Motor Vehicle Glass Act

- **Status:** Approved by the Governor and filed with the Secretary of State on September 27, 2026.
- **Summary:** This bill establishes new requirements for windshield repair and replacement, including:
 - **Disclosures:** Shops must notify consumers if their vehicle has an advanced driver assistance system (ADAS) and if calibration is required post-repair.
 - **Written notice and invoice:** Shops must provide written notice of calibration outcomes and itemized invoices.

SB 1392 (Cortese/Grove): Smog Check Exemption for Collector Motor Vehicles (1 of 3)

- **Status:** Approved by the Governor and filed with the Secretary of State on September 16, 2026.
- **Summary:** This bill requires BAR, in consultation with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), to establish a process in regulation for exempting collector motor vehicles, based on their model year, from their next required Smog Check inspection.

SB 1392 (Cortese/Grove): Smog Check Exemption for Collector Motor Vehicles (2 of 3)

- **Summary (continued):**
 - The vehicle must meet the following criteria:
 - Be insured as a collector motor vehicle, or beginning January 1, 2030, be driven fewer than 1,000 miles per calendar year
 - Be used primarily in shows, parades, charitable functions, and historical exhibitions for display, maintenance, and preservation
 - Not be used as a primary mode of transportation

SB 1392 (Cortese/Grove): Smog Check Exemption for Collector Motor Vehicles (3 of 3)

- **Summary (continued):**

- Beginning January 1, 2028, model year 1980 and older collector motor vehicles are eligible for the Smog Check exemption.
- Each year, the exemption is extended by one model year, ending on January 1, 2033, with model year 1985 and older collector motor vehicles eligible for the Smog Check exemption.
- Note: Model year 1975 and older vehicles, regardless of collector motor vehicle status, are completely exempt from the Smog Check Program.

SB 1445 (Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development): Electronic Documentation

- **Status:** Approved by the Governor and filed with the Secretary of State on September 14, 2026.
- **Summary:**
 - This is an omnibus technical cleanup bill for DCA programs that includes a provision to permit a written estimate in electronic format for automotive repair transactions.
 - Note: This change is consistent with current BAR regulations.

Regulations adopted in 2026

- Change of Address Requirements
 - Adopted on March 30, 2026; effective on July 1, 2026
- Biometric Device Updates
 - Adopted on April 2, 2026; effective on July 1, 2026
- Section 100: Decertification of Equipment Manufacturers
 - Adopted and effective on September 3, 2026

Pending regulation packages

- Storage Fees Charged by Automotive Repair Dealers
- Airbag Safety
- Towing Authorization Requirement
- Business Information Updates

Storage Fees Charged by Automotive Repair Dealers (1 of 6)

- **Proposed changes:**

- Codify existing laws on vehicle storage in BAR regulations. The proposed regulations would:
 - Establish that fees charged by an ARD, for the storage of a motor vehicle, shall be based on their costs associated with storing a vehicle.
 - Clarify how and when storage fees may be charged prior to a repair transaction, following a repair transaction, or with no repair transaction.

Storage Fees Charged by Automotive Repair Dealers (2 of 6)

- **Proposed changes (continued):**
 - Require that an ARD store a vehicle at its primary business address as registered with the Bureau. If it is necessary to store the vehicle at a different location:
 - The ARD must notify the customer of the storage location prior to moving the vehicle; and
 - The ARD shall not charge to move the vehicle without customer authorization.

Storage Fees Charged by Automotive Repair Dealers (3 of 6)

- **Proposed changes (continued):**
 - Require that an ARD provide an itemized invoice for storage fees when charged.
 - Require an ARD that provides storage services to post their current daily storage fee rate(s) in an area frequented by customers.
 - Require an ARD to report to the Bureau their maximum daily storage rate when renewing their registration.
 - An ARD may make a change to their reported maximum daily storage rate once per registration cycle.

Storage Fees Charged by Automotive Repair Dealers (4 of 6)

- **Proposed changes (continued):**
 - Require an ARD that maintains a motor carrier permit to display the Towing and Storage Fees Access Notice in an area of the business facility that is in plain view of the public and have copies of the notice available to the public.
 - Require BAR to create a search tool on its website showing average and median daily storage rates for a given locale based on the maximum daily storage rates reported by ARDs.
 - Define a “locale” as one of four geographic radiuses around each reporting ARD that is sufficient to identify average and median storage rates for that locale.

Storage Fees Charged by Automotive Repair Dealers (5 of 6)

- **History:**
 - Public workshops held on April 25, July 18, October 17, 2024, and January 30, 2025.
 - Final package filed with the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on May 19, 2026.
 - BAR withdrew package on June 26, 2026 to address OAL concerns regarding clarity of several provisions.
- **Status:** Final package pending review by DCA and Business and Consumer Services Agency (Agency).

Storage Fees Charged by Automotive Repair Dealers (6 of 6)

- **Next steps:**
 - Complete internal review by DCA and Agency
 - File final package with OAL
 - Expected effective date of January 1, 2027

Airbag Safety (1 of 4)

- **Proposed changes:**

- Prohibit an ARD from manufacturing, installing, or selling for sale any airbag or airbag part or component which is part of an inflatable restraint system known, or which by the exercise of reasonable care should be known, to:
 - Have been previously deployed
 - Have an electrical fault
 - Include a component designed to mislead the vehicle owner or operator into believing a functional airbag has been installed
 - Display a mark identical or substantially similar to the genuine mark of a motor vehicle manufacturer, or of a supplier of parts to the manufacturer of a motor vehicle, without authorization from that manufacturer or supplier
 - Be subject to an airbag-related safety recall issued by the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) or the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Airbag Safety (2 of 4)

- **Proposed changes (continued):**
 - Require an ARD to restore an airbag that is part of an inflatable restraint system to its original operating condition as designed by the OEM.
 - Prescribe that an ARD can only purchase an airbag replacement part or component from:
 - The OEM;
 - A supplier or reseller authorized by the OEM to manufacture, assemble, provide for vehicle production, or sell new or replacement airbags; or

Airbag Safety (3 of 4)

- **Proposed changes (continued):**
 - An automotive dismantler, licensed by DMV, that has verified the following:
 - The replacement airbag parts or components are OEM;
 - The individual replacement parts or components required for the safe deployment of an airbag have not triggered a previous airbag deployment;
 - The assembly shows no indication of damage, previous deployment, or tampering; and
 - Any airbag-related recalls have been performed on the vehicle from which the replacement parts or components are being removed.

Airbag Safety (4 of 4)

- **Proposed changes (continued):**
 - Require an ARD to retain receipts for all parts received or purchased.
 - If the manufacturer of the vehicle has published a position statement(s) related to airbag parts or components, the replacement of any airbag parts or components shall not contradict any currently operative position statement(s).
- **Status:** Final package pending review by DCA and Agency
- **Next steps:**
 - Complete internal review by DCA and Agency
 - File final package with OAL
 - Expected effective date of January 1, 2027

Towing Authorization Requirement (1 of 2)

- **Proposed changes:**

- Require an ARD that performs or contracts with another party to perform a towing service to obtain customer authorization of any towing fees prior to the towing service being performed.
- Require an ARD that maintains a motor carrier permit pursuant to Vehicle Code section 34620 to obtain any towing fee authorization on a separate document from any repair authorization.
 - This requirement does not apply to a towing service that is needed to transport the vehicle as part of a sublet repair or to transfer the vehicle to a different location for purposes of storage.
- Require an ARD to list any storage-related and/or towing-related charges as separate line items on the repair invoice.

Towing Authorization Requirement (2 of 2)

- **Status:** Pending review by Agency
- **Next steps:**
 - Complete internal review by Agency
 - File package with OAL and begin 45-day public comment period

Business Information Updates (1 of 2)

- **Proposed changes:**

- Require an applicant for an ARD registration to provide a telephone number for the physical location of the business and a business email address.
- Ensure that, as a condition of registration renewal, an ARD verifies that all information required on the initial application is current and submitted to BAR.
- Include, in addition to internet-based advertising, that print and vehicle-based advertising clearly display the ARD business name or DBA name and their registration number.
 - Repeal the provision requiring an ARD to include a telephone number in their advertising.
- Clarify that internet-based advertising includes social media, email, and websites.

Business Information Updates (2 of 2)

- **Proposed changes (continued):**
 - Allow the display requirement for internet-based advertising to be satisfied if the advertisement links to another online source containing the required business name and registration number.
- **Status:** Pending review by Agency
- **Next steps:**
 - Complete internal review by Agency
 - File package with OAL and begin 45-day public comment period

Thank you

For comments and questions, please contact:

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www.bar.ca.gov



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