

HOUSE BILL 309:

Inspection of Low-Speed Vehicles.

2023-2024 General Assembly

Committee: House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the Date: April 26, 2023

House

Introduced by: Rep. Iler **Prepared by:** Kellette Wade

Analysis of: Second Edition Committee Co-Counsel

OVERVIEW: House Bill 309 would authorize licensed safety inspection stations that employ a licensed safety inspection mechanic to perform safety inspections for low-speed vehicles at a location other than the inspection station. It would also direct the Department of Transportation (DOT) to adopt rules to implement the act before July 1, 2024.

CURRENT LAW: Currently, vehicle safety inspections must be performed by a licensed safety inspection mechanic at either a licensed safety inspection station or a licensed safety self-inspector's place of business (G.S. 20-183.4).

Low-speed vehicles are defined as four-wheeled electric vehicles with top speeds greater than 20 mph but less than 25 mph, and they must be registered and insured with the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) (G.S. 20-4.01(27)g., G.S. 20-50, and G.S. 20-309).

Any motor vehicle that is subject to registration with DMV must also receive a safety inspection in accordance with Article 3A of Chapter 20 of the General Statutes unless it is otherwise exempted (G.S. 20-183.2).

BILL ANALYSIS: Section 1 of House Bill 309 would authorize licensed safety inspection stations that employ a licensed safety inspection mechanic to perform safety inspections for low-speed vehicles at a location other than the inspection station. Safety inspections for low-speed vehicles, whether performed at the station or at a different location, would be subject to the safety inspection requirements of Article 3A of Chapter 20 of the General Statutes.

Section 2 of House Bill 309 would direct DOT to adopt rules to implement the act before July 1, 2024.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Section 1 of the bill would become effective July 1, 2024, and apply to low-speed vehicles inspected on or after that date. The remainder of the bill would be effective when it becomes law.

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