

1 Sec. A. 23 V.S.A. § 1282(b) is amended to read:

2 (b) A school bus shall not be operated in the transportation of children to and from school
3 unless and until it is inspected at an inspection station designated as such by the Motor Vehicle
4 Department or at the location where it is stationed. The inspection shall thoroughly cover
5 mechanical conditions, standard equipment, extra equipment, and safety and comfort conditions
6 all as provided in section 1281 of this title; and, if the inspected vehicle meets all of these
7 requirements, the inspection station shall give the owner or operator of the inspected vehicle a
8 signed certificate so stating. This certificate shall be shown as soon as possible by the owner or
9 operator to a school director in the town in which this vehicle is to be operated, and shall
10 thereafter be carried in some easily accessible place in the vehicle. Thereafter, so long as this
11 bus remains in this service, it must be reinspected semiannually as provided in this section ~~during~~
12 ~~each of the following periods: in July–August, November–December,~~ and February–March.
13 School buses of the pleasure car type, if regularly used in this service, shall display signs
14 required in subdivision ~~1281(9)~~ 1283(a)(1) of this title when transporting schoolchildren.

15 Sec. B. 23 V.S.A. § 1222 is amended to read:

16 § 1222. INSPECTION OF REGISTERED VEHICLES

17 (a) Except for school buses which shall be inspected as prescribed in section 1282 of this title
18 and motor buses as defined in subdivision 4(17) of this title which shall be inspected twice
19 during the calendar year at six-month intervals, all motor vehicles registered in this State shall be
20 inspected once each year. Any motor vehicle, trailer, or semi-trailer not currently inspected in
21 this State shall be inspected within 15 days from the date of its registration in the State of
22 Vermont.

1 (b) The inspections shall be made at garages or qualified service stations, designated by the
2 Commissioner as inspection stations, ~~for the~~ except that an authorized emergency vehicle or a
3 school bus may be inspected at a designated inspection station or at the location where the
4 emergency vehicle or bus is stationed. The purpose of determining whether those inspecting
5 motor vehicles shall be to determine whether they are properly equipped and maintained in good
6 mechanical condition. The charges for such inspections made by garages or qualified service
7 stations designated to conduct periodic inspections shall be subject to the approval of the
8 Commissioner. If a fee is charged for inspection, it shall be based upon the hourly rate charged
9 by each official inspection station or it may be a flat rate fee and, in either instance, the fee shall
10 be prominently posted and displayed beside the official inspection station certificate. In
11 addition, the official inspection station may disclose the State inspection certificate charge on the
12 repair order as a separate item and collect the charge from the consumer.

13 * * *

14 Sec. C. 23 V.S.A. § 1227 is amended to read:

15 § 1227. CERTIFIED INSPECTION MECHANICS

16 (a) Periodic inspections may be performed only by mechanics who have been certified by the
17 ~~commissioner~~ Commissioner; provided that an uncertified person employed as an inspection
18 mechanic may perform inspections during the first 30 days that he or she is employed by the
19 inspection station.

20 (b) A person who applies for certification under this section shall:

21 (1) complete an application form prescribed by the commissioner, shall Commissioner;

22 (2) be at least 18 years of age, and shall; and

1 (3) pass an examination based on the official inspection manual for each type of vehicle to
2 be inspected.

3 ~~(c) Applicants for certification under this section shall be examined~~ and on the inspection
4 requirements for each type of vehicle to be inspected.

5 (c) ~~Upon satisfactory completion of the examination, the commissioner~~ an applicant's
6 satisfaction of the requirements of subsection (b) of this section, the Commissioner shall issue a
7 certification which shall remain in effect for a period of five years or until surrendered,
8 suspended, or revoked. Inspection mechanics certified by their employer as competent to
9 perform inspections and who were continuously employed by one or more designated inspection
10 stations for a period of at least one year at any time prior to July 1, 1998 shall not be required to
11 take the examination.

12 (d) To inspect a school bus, a certified inspector shall not be required to have a commercial
13 driver license if he or she:

14 (1) uses approved automated brake testing equipment in lieu of an inspection road test; or

15 (2) conducts an inspection road test at a safe location that is not a highway as defined in

16 19 V.S.A. § 1(12).

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23 V.S.A. § 4. Definition

Except as may be otherwise provided herein, and unless the context otherwise requires in statutes relating to motor vehicles and enforcement of the law regulating vehicles, as provided in this title and 20 V.S.A. part 5, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) "Authorized emergency vehicle" means a vehicle of a fire department, police vehicle, public and private ambulance, and a vehicle to which a permit has been issued pursuant to subdivision 1252(a)(1) or (2) of this title.

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23 V.S.A. § 1252. Issuance of permits for sirens or colored lamps, or both; use of amber lamps

(a) When satisfied as to the condition and use of the vehicle, the Commissioner shall issue and may revoke, for cause, permits for sirens or colored signal lamps in the following manner:

(1) Sirens or blue or blue and white signal lamps, or a combination of these, may be authorized for all law enforcement vehicles owned or leased by a law enforcement agency, a certified law enforcement officer, or the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council. If the applicant is a constable, the application shall be accompanied by a certification by the town clerk that the applicant is the duly elected or appointed constable and attesting that the town has not voted to limit the constable's authority to engage in enforcement activities under 24 V.S.A. § 1936a.

(2) Sirens and red or red and white signal lamps may be authorized for all ambulances, fire apparatus, vehicles used solely in rescue operations, or vehicles owned or leased by, or provided to, volunteer firefighters and voluntary rescue squad members, including a vehicle owned by a volunteer's employer when the volunteer has the written authorization of the employer to use the vehicle for emergency fire or rescue activities.

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