

No. 1992-139

AN ACT

HB 184

Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for definitions, for reduced combustion vehicles, for inspection certificates and for movement of construction equipment.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Section 102 of Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding definitions to read:

§ 102. Definitions.

Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent provisions of this title which are applicable to specific provisions of this title, the following words and phrases when used in this title shall have, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this section:

* * *

“Electric vehicle.” A motor vehicle which operates solely by use of a battery or battery pack and which meets the applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards. The term includes a motor vehicle which is powered mainly through the use of an electric battery or battery pack but which uses a flywheel that stores energy produced by the electric motor or through regenerative braking to assist in operation of the motor vehicle.

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“Hybrid electric vehicle.” An electric vehicle which allows power to be delivered to the drive wheels solely by a battery-powered electric motor but which also incorporates the use of a combustion engine to provide power to the battery and which meets the applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards. The primary source of power for the motor must be the electric battery or battery pack and not the combustion engine.

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“Zero-emission vehicle.” A motor vehicle which produces no emissions of any criteria of pollutants under any operational mode and under any conditions and which meets the applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Section 2. Sections 1919 and 1958 of Title 75 are amended to read:

§ 1919. [Electric] *Reduced combustion* vehicles.

[The annual fee for registration of a vehicle which is propelled by electric power shall be \$12.]

(a) *General rule.*—*There shall be no annual fee for registration of any of the following:*

- (1) *An electric vehicle.*
- (2) *A hybrid electric vehicle.*

(3) A zero-emission vehicle.**(b) Expiration.**—*This section shall expire December 31, 1996.*

§ 1958. Certificate of inspection.

(a) General rule.—The department shall charge \$2 for each annual certificate of inspection and \$1 for each semiannual certificate of inspection.**(b) Credit.**—**(1)** *Once each calendar year, every official inspection station which inspects an electric vehicle, a hybrid electric vehicle or a zero-emission vehicle shall be eligible to claim a credit for the cost of the certificate of inspection for said vehicle. The official inspection station may only claim the credit one time in any calendar year and shall claim it within 12 months of the inspection on a form prescribed by the department. The vehicle owner shall not be required to pay the cost of the certificate of inspection.***(2)** *This subsection shall expire December 31, 1996.*

Section 3. Section 4970 of Title 75 is amended by adding a subsection to read:

§ 4970. Permit for movement of construction equipment.

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(b.1) Construction trucks.—*An annual permit may be issued for a construction truck to exceed the registered gross weight permitted in section 4941(c) and the maximum allowable axle weight permitted in section 4943(a) on highways and bridges designated by the department. This subsection shall:***(1)** *only apply to trucks registered prior to October 10, 1980; and***(2)** *expire on May 31, 1998.*

Section 4. The addition of 75 Pa.C.S. § 4970(b.1) shall apply retroactively to May 31, 1992. Permits issued under 75 Pa.C.S. § 4970(b) prior to May 31, 1992, which, except for the expiration of 75 Pa.C.S. § 4970(b), would still be valid on the effective date of this section shall be deemed issued under 75 Pa.C.S. § 4970(b.1).

Section 5. This act shall take effect as follows:

(1) The amendment of 75 Pa.C.S. §§ 102, 1919 and 1958 shall take effect in 60 days.**(2)** The remainder of this act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 14th day of December, A. D. 1992.

ROBERT P. CASEY