

# House Research Act Summary

**CHAPTER:** 178

**SESSION:** 1999 Regular Session

**TOPIC:** Auto Emissions Testing

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**Analyst:** Jeanne Cochran, 651-296-8961

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## Overview

This act provides for the termination of the auto emissions inspection program in the

Twin Cities metropolitan area on or before March 1, 2000. The act also makes changes to the current auto emissions testing program effective December 1, 1999, to conform to the requirements of the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

### Section

- 1** Defines "Twin Cities nonattainment area for carbon monoxide" as the area surrounding the Twin Cities which were designated by the Environmental Protection Agency as being in nonattainment for carbon monoxide as of January 1, 1999.
- 2-3** Provides that auto emissions testing is no longer required for motor vehicles in the Twin Cities metropolitan area beginning March 1, 2000 or a short period after the redesignation of the Twin Cities nonattainment area for carbon monoxide to attainment, whichever is earlier.
- 4** Requires auto emissions testing to be done based on the year of the chassis and not the year of the engine of the motor vehicle. This section is not effective until December 1, 1999.
- 5** Deletes the language that requires any contract to provide auto emissions inspection services be a minimum of five years. Provides that any new or renewed contract cannot be extended past the time inspection is no longer required.
- 6** Amends the certificate of waiver provision to require that a waiver be based on actual costs of repair already performed rather than on estimated costs of repair. This section is not effective until December 1, 1999.
- 7** Requires the Pollution Control Agency to provide all operators of motor vehicles which fail an annual emissions inspection information about how to obtain a waiver or a temporary extension. This information must be provided at the time of the failed inspection. This section is not

effective until December 1, 1999.

- 8** Deletes reference to estimated cost of repairs. This section is not effective until December 1, 1999.
- 9** Prohibits the Pollution Control Agency from increasing the fees on stationary sources to offset revenue lost from termination of the auto emissions testing program before fiscal year 2001.
- 10** Repeals the statutory authority for the auto emissions testing program.
- 11** Provides that sections 4, 6, 7 and 8 are effective December 1, 1999. Provides that the repeal of the statutory authority for the auto emissions testing program becomes effective March 1, 2000, the latest date emissions testing would stop under the act, with exception of the repeal of the vehicle emissions inspection account which is repealed effective June 1, 2000.