

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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The bill provides express authority to perform stops of commercial vehicles, in order to perform vehicle spot check inspections and weight limit enforcement, for specified employees within the State Patrol (that is, who are not licensed peace officers and are employed to enforce motor vehicle and motor carrier regulations).

Commercial vehicle stops, along with inspections, have historically been performed by “commercial vehicle inspectors” for examining compliance with vehicle regulations including weight limits, equipment, and driver licensing. A 2014 Minnesota Court of Appeals decision (*Minnesota v. Stall*, 845 N.W.2d 246 (Minn. App. 2014)) concluded that inspectors do not have statutory authority to perform the stops.