



**To the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation**  
**April 8th, 2025**

**Americans for Prosperity Testimony Support of L.D. 667 (H.P. 435) An Act to Modernize the State Motor Vehicle Inspection Program and the Law Governing Inspection Fees.**

Honorable Members of the Joint Committee on Transportation,

My name is Rachel Burgin, and I serve as the Deputy Regional State Director for Americans for Prosperity. On behalf of **Americans for Prosperity**, I write to express our **strong opposition** to **L.D. 667**, sponsored by Representative Parry. While this bill is presented as a modernization of Maine's motor vehicle inspection program, it ultimately increases costs, adds regulatory burdens, and continues a system that many other states have already recognized as unnecessary.

L.D. 667 allows the Chief of the State Police to mandate an **electronic vehicle inspection program**, potentially contracting with private vendors and charging **per-inspection fees** to already strained local inspection stations. These fees, while capped at the state's cost, represent yet another government-imposed financial pressure — one that will inevitably be passed down to Maine's drivers.

Even more concerning is the **revised fee structure**, which would permit inspection stations to charge up to **2.5 times the state's minimum wage** for every inspection. This could push inspection costs well beyond what working families and rural Mainers can reasonably afford. For many, this will feel like yet another **regressive tax**—one that punishes those who rely most heavily on their vehicles for work, healthcare, and basic daily needs.

The legislation also increases the cost of school bus inspections, again without clear justification or demonstrated benefit. These changes disproportionately affect low-income communities and school districts already facing tight budgets.

It's important to emphasize that **more than 30 states** across the country **do not require routine vehicle inspections** for personal vehicles. These states have not seen spikes in accidents or safety issues as a result. Maine's continued insistence on maintaining — and now expanding — this inspection regime places our residents at a disadvantage without improving public safety.

Rather than modernizing an outdated and ineffective system, L.D. 667 locks it in, increases its cost, and burdens both consumers and small businesses in the process. Maine should be moving in the direction of **reducing** unnecessary regulations, not reinforcing them with costly new technologies and arbitrary fee increases.

At Americans for Prosperity, we believe government should empower people, not burden them. L.D. 667 is a step in the wrong direction, and we respectfully urge lawmakers to oppose this legislation in favor of policies that promote freedom, affordability, and real modernization.

We respectfully request that you vote against this bill and support Mainers who are struggling with taxes and fees increased by mandates.

**With gratitude,**

**Rachel Burgin**  
**Regional Deputy State Director**  
**Americans for Prosperity**