



The Massachusetts Association of Auto Clubs (M.A.A.C.) strongly **Supports** H.3436/H.3343 which is before the Joint Transportation Committee, an amendment which would instruct the Registrar to exempt antique automobiles that are 45 years old or older from the annual safety inspection. M.A.A.C. represents the interests of some 280 Massachusetts car clubs that count more than 40,000 members in their ranks, and M.A.A.C. believes that this bill would encourage owners of effected vehicles to choose the Year of Manufacture (YOM) and Antique registrations over the general registration. These registration types have restrictions on the use of the vehicles - "maintained solely for use in exhibitions, club activities, parades, and other functions of public interest (this includes drives to prepare for such functions and transportation to and from the repair shop)." In 2011, there were 7,028 Year of Manufacture (YOM) and 14,004 Antique registrations for vehicles in the commonwealth. The number of YOM and Antique number has dropped in each "Shelly" monthly report since M.A.A.C. first received reports in 2011, and in September 2019, the numbers where 5,798 and 10,719. M.A.A.C has several examples of where owners have re-registered their vehicles with general use license plates solely because of the two year registration. M.A.A.C believes H.3436/H.3343 would reverse this trend or at least slow it.

Some additional data points:

- In the September 2019 "Shelly" report there were 4,941 registered vehicles effected by this bill, clearly many were not registered as YOM or Antique.
- Vehicles registered as Antique and YOM are driven less miles than "older" vehicles registered under general license plates. National average is less than 250 miles annually.
- Antique vehicles are better maintained than "older" vehicles used for general transportation.
- Many of the Antique vehicles are driven only to and from the inspection station to keep the registration valid in the case of their possible use.
- Antique vehicles are part of the Commonwealth's history and their preservation should be encouraged.
- H.B. 3603 would require membership in a recognized club, and this would promote the proper maintaining of vehicles and a needed network of expertise on the vehicles.
- Owners of Antique vehicles are more "proactive" in the maintenance of their vehicles than the annual inspection would require.
- Automobiles manufactured before 1945 are manual transmission, Tiller or even three peddled (Model T Ford), and many of the current inspection station operators are not able to "drive" the vehicles into the inspection bay as required. The Registry does not allow owners to drive vehicles into the bay.
- 39 Other States have removed annual inspection on Antique, Classic, Historic Plates or all together. (See Page2)
- Massachusetts was ranked 50th in a listing of states to register Antique Cars – Grade F (see other side for details)
- "Change of ownership" inspection would still be required after a sale of the vehicle.
- The Commonwealth receives revenue for Year of Manufacture & Antique registrations, and therefore this bill would be revenue **POSSITIVE**. Year of Manufacture and Antique registrations generate \$60 yearly vs standard registrations are \$60 every 2 years.

I appreciate the opportunity to present our support for H.3436/H.3343 that are before the Joint Transportation Committee and would welcome the opportunity for M.A.A.C. to provide additional technical input on this matter and other legislation affecting the interests of our member car clubs.

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The Massachusetts Association of Auto Clubs was founded in 1970 by a group of concerned auto enthusiasts, who were dedicated to promoting and protecting the interest of the auto collecting hobby. They took it upon themselves to contact other car clubs with similar interests and asked them to send two representatives to the very first meeting at the Bolton Town Hall. The response was tremendous. Over the years since then, MAAC has worked behind the scenes to protect the interests of the hobbyists against legislation that could have a negative impact on driving collector vehicles. MAAC has also worked proactively to facilitate legislative changes that benefit the way we register and insure our antique or collector vehicles. MAAC is a volunteer organization and receives no funding from any companies, state agencies or external associations.

The Following States do not require owners of Antique automobiles to have their cars inspected yearly:
California, New Jersey, Hawaii, South Dakota, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Rhode Island, Illinois, Virginia, South Carolina, Florida, Washington, Delaware, Wisconsin, Oklahoma, Michigan, Georgia, West Virginia, Kansas, Iowa, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, Wyoming, Ohio, Idaho, Alaska, Mississippi, Alabama, Montana, Oregon, Nebraska, North Dakota, Utah, Arkansas, Kentucky, Minnesota.

Link to the grading of states on their “collector car friendliness” - <https://www.hagerty.com/articles-videos/articles/2019/07/18/how-classic-car-friendly-is-your-state>