
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5381

AN ACT CONCERNING THE FEDERAL CLEAN AIR ACT FEE ON MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION.

SUMMARY

This bill directs 42.5% of federal Clean Air Act (CAA) fees collected on motor vehicle registrations to a “federal Clean Air Act account” within the General Fund and dedicates the money to certain environmental purposes. Under current law, this portion of CAA fees goes to the General Fund and is not dedicated to any specific purpose. Existing law, unchanged by the bill, directs the other 57.5% of CAA fees to the Special Transportation Fund.

The bill establishes the federal Clean Air Act account as a separate, nonlapsing account in the General Fund and requires that it contain any money the law requires to be deposited in it. Account funds must be spent by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection commissioner, in consultation with the transportation commissioner, to implement federal CAA requirements, improve air quality, and reduce carbon emissions.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2022

BACKGROUND

CAA Fees on Motor Vehicle Registrations

State law requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to collect the CAA fee on new registrations and renewals and sets the fee at \$15 for a triennial registration period (proportionately reduced for other registration lengths). By law, the CAA fee does not apply to motor vehicles that are electrically powered, not self-propelled, or exempt from a registration fee (CGS § 14-49b(a)).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 35 Nay 0 (03/24/2022)