

Legislation and regulations update

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Bureau of Automotive Repair

Important notice

The information in this presentation is current as of January 15, 2026. Because legislative and regulatory activities are subject to change, details such as bill summaries, dates, or regulation status may not reflect the most recent updates.

For the latest information, please visit:

- **Legislation:** www.leginfo.legislature.ca.gov
- **Regulations:** www.bar.ca.gov/regulatory-actions

Important legislative dates

- **January 1, 2026** – 2025 chaptered bills took effect
- **January 31, 2026** – Last day for Assembly and Senate to pass bills introduced in their respective house for 2025
- **February 20, 2026** – Last day for bills to be introduced

2025 chaptered bills

- **AB 987** (Sharp-Collins): Vehicle Storage and Towing
- **SB 774** (Ashby): Citation and Remedial Training Programs
- **SB 861** (Senate BPED Committee): Business and Professions Code Technical Cleanup

Regulations adopted in 2025

- Technical Cleanup to Update Terminology: “Bureau-accepted Educational Certifications”
- Tear Down Disclosure Requirements for Automotive Repair Dealers
- Smog Check Readiness Monitor Limits
- Mobile and Referral Service Automotive Repair Dealers

Pending regulation packages

- Storage Fees Charged by Automotive Repair Dealers
- Change of Address Requirements
- Biometric Device Updates
- Airbag Safety

Storage Fees Charged by Automotive Repair Dealers

(1 of 4)

- Purpose: Codify existing laws on vehicle storage in BAR regulations. The proposed regulations would:
 - Establish that fees charged for the storage of a motor vehicle must be reasonable.
 - Determine when storage fees may be charged.
 - Require that an ARD store a vehicle at its primary business address as registered with the Bureau. If it is necessary to store the vehicle at a different location:
 - The ARD must notify the customer of the storage location prior to moving the vehicle; and
 - The ARD shall not charge to move the vehicle without authorization.

Storage Fees Charged by Automotive Repair Dealers (2 of 4)

- Purpose continued:
 - Require that an ARD provide an itemized invoice for storage fees when charged.
 - An ARD that provides storage services shall post their current daily storage fee rate in an area frequented by customers and provide the Bureau with their maximum daily storage rate when renewing their registration.
 - An ARD may make a change to their reported maximum daily storage rate once per registration cycle.
 - An ARD that maintains a motor carrier permit shall display the Towing and Storage Fees Access Notice in an area of the business facility that is in plain view of the public and have copies available to the public.

Storage Fees Charged by Automotive Repair Dealers

(3 of 4)

- Purpose continued:
 - Create a search tool on BAR's website showing average and median daily storage rates for a given locale based on the maximum daily storage rates reported by ARDs.
 - Define a “locale” as one of four geographic radii around each reporting ARD that is sufficient to identify average and median storage rates for that locale.

Storage Fees Charged by Automotive Repair Dealers

(4 of 4)

- History: Public workshops held on April 25, July 18, October 17, 2024, and January 30, 2025.
- Status: 45-day comment period ended on December 31, 2025; preparing final package for review and approval by DCA Legal.
- Next steps: Submit final package to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for final approval and adoption.

Change of Address Requirements

- Purpose:
 - Remove inconsistencies in current regulations by clarifying timeframes for reporting material changes. Specifically, update the timeframe for notice of a change of address to 14 days and notice of other material changes to 30 days throughout the regulations.
 - Remove duplicative text and make minor grammatical changes for consistency and clarification.
- Status: Pending final review by DCA Legal.
- Next steps: Submit to OAL for final approval and adoption.

Biometric Device Updates

- Purpose: Update the Smog Check Manual and Vehicle Safety Systems Inspection Manual to read “Fujitsu palm vein scanner sensor model FAT13FPS01 or newer...” (Emphasis added.)
- Status: Pending final review by DCA Legal.
- Next steps: Submit to OAL for final approval and adoption.

Airbag Safety (1 of 2)

- **Purpose:**
 - An ARD shall not manufacture, import, install, reinstall, distribute, sell, or offer for sale any airbag which is part of an inflatable restraint system known, or which by the exercise of reasonable care should be known, to:
 - Have been previously deployed
 - Have an electrical fault
 - Include a component designed to mislead the vehicle owner or operator into believing a functional airbag has been installed
 - Display a mark identical or substantially similar to the genuine mark of a motor vehicle manufacturer, or of a supplier of parts to the manufacturer of a motor vehicle, without authorization from that manufacturer or supplier

Airbag Safety (2 of 2)

- Purpose continued:
 - An ARD shall restore an airbag that is part of an inflatable restraint system to its original operating condition as designed by the original equipment manufacturer.
 - An ARD shall purchase any airbag replacement part or component from the manufacturer or an authorized supplier or reseller.
 - An ARD shall retain receipts for all parts received or purchased.
- Status: BAR submitted initial package to DCA Legal for review.
- Next steps: DCA Legal approval of initial package; submit to the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency for review and approval; file with OAL for 45-day public comment period.

Thank you

For comments and questions, please contact:

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www.bar.ca.gov



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