



## Federal News

- **The Automotive Service Association (ASA) submitted comments to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)** in response to the [DOT's request for information](#). The DOT asked the public to provide comments that would inform the department's research activities supporting safe and expanded autonomous vehicle (AV) operations in the United States. [ASA recommended](#) that the DOT research the frequency and degree to which AV and advanced driving assistance system (ADAS) sensors shift into an improperly uncalibrated position. This research would help policymakers determine how often these vehicles should be inspected for proper calibration.
- **President Trump issued new 25 percent tariffs** on imports of light-duty and heavy-duty vehicles and their parts. His proclamation also created a new 10 percent tariff on imports of buses. Exceptions to these tariffs exist for certain products that comply with the U.S. Mexico Canada trade agreement (USMCA). [Click here for more details](#).
- **The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced plans to make changes to the SBA's 504 Loan Program** that could make it easier for some automotive repair businesses to qualify for the loan. Under current rules, a small business can qualify for the loan program if, among other conditions, the project funded by the loan will result in the employer creating or preserving at least one job for every \$90,000 guaranteed by the SBA. The proposed change would only require the employer to create or preserve one job for every \$95,000 that the SBA guarantees. [Click here for more info](#).
- **The federal government remains mostly shutdown due to Congress' inability to agree on federal funding terms for fiscal year 2026.**

## State News

- **California** Governor Gavin Newsom (D) signed [AB 987](#) into law after it passed 39-0 in the State Senate and 79-0 in the State Assembly. It will allow insurers to waive responsibility for "unreasonable" storage fees, which the bill defines as including administrative or filing fees, security fees, dolly fees, pull-out fees, gate fees (except when the owners requests the vehicle be released outside of normal business hours), and storage fees charged for state holidays that exceed the posted standard daily storage rate. Previous versions of AB 987 also defined "unreasonable" to include non-hourly storage fees for vehicles stored fewer than 24 hours, storage fees for vehicles in emergency situations where the owner or insurer was not at fault, and storage fees assessed on days the facility is not open. The bill's author removed these provisions from the definition after receiving feedback from industry stakeholders.
- **California** The California Air Resources Board (CARB) unanimously [approved changes](#) to its Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) regulation that will delay its implementation until 2030. Originally, under ACF, the state must ensure, by 2027 that all new vehicles purchased by the state are electric vehicles (EV). Besides pushing that date back to 2030, the new rule also creates exceptions that make it easier for state-owned fleets to acquire vehicles powered by internal combustion engines under certain circumstances. [Click here for more details](#).
- **Utah** Governor Spencer Cox (R) signed [HB 1003](#) into law after passing unanimously in the state senate and house during a special legislative session. This new law exempts fewer vehicles from emissions inspection requirements. Currently, vehicles that weigh less than 14,001 lbs. are exempt. The exemption threshold now sits at 12,001 lbs. Additionally, state law previously permitted county legislatures to exempt diesel-powered vehicles that weigh less than 16,000 lbs. Now, they can only exempt those that weigh less than 14,000 lbs.

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