COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMI	TTEE ACTION
ADOPTED	(Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	(Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	(Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	(Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	(Y/N)
OTHER	

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Transportation & Modals Subcommittee

Representative Tramont offered the following:

## Amendment.

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Remove lines 78-201 and insert:

If the owner, however, retains possession of a motor vehicle or mobile home in connection with a total loss claim settlement for such motor vehicle or mobile home, the owner must, within 72 hours after the motor vehicle or mobile home becomes salvage, or the insurance company must, within 72 hours after receiving the certificate of title for such motor vehicle or mobile home, forward the certificate of title to the motor vehicle or mobile home to the department for processing, and the department must issue a salvage certificate of title or certificate of destruction from the department directly to the vehicle owner

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and not to the insurance company or its agent. The owner or insurance company, as applicable, may not dispose of a motor vehicle or mobile home that is a total loss before it obtains a salvage certificate of title or certificate of destruction from the department. Effective January 1, 2020:

- 1. Thirty days after payment of a claim for compensation pursuant to this paragraph, the insurance company may receive a salvage certificate of title or certificate of destruction from the department if the insurance company is unable to obtain a properly assigned paper certificate of title from the owner or lienholder of the motor vehicle or mobile home or a properly completed assignment of an electronic certificate of title from the owner of, if the motor vehicle or mobile home does not carry an electronic lien on the title and the insurance company:
- a. Has obtained the release of all liens on the motor vehicle or mobile home, or has paid the amount due to the lienholder and has obtained proof that the lienholder accepts payment as satisfying the amount due to the lienholder;
- b. Has attested on a form provided by the department that payment of the total loss claim has been distributed; and
- c. Has attested on a form provided by the department and signed by the insurance company or its authorized agent stating the attempts that have been made to obtain the paper certificate of title or a properly completed assignment of an electronic certificate of title from the owner or lienholder and further

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stating that all attempts are to no avail. The form must include a request that the salvage certificate of title or certificate of destruction be issued in the insurance company's name due to payment of a total loss claim to the owner or lienholder. The attempts to contact the owner or lienholder may be by written request delivered in person or by first-class mail with a certificate of mailing to the owner's <u>last known address</u> or lienholder's last known address, respectively.

- 2. If the owner or lienholder is notified of the request for title or assignment of title in person, the insurance company must provide an affidavit attesting to the in-person request for a certificate of title or assignment of title.
- 3. The request to the owner or lienholder for the certificate of title or to the owner for the assignment of title must include a complete description of the motor vehicle or mobile home and the statement that a total loss claim has been paid on the motor vehicle or mobile home.
- 4. The department is not liable and may not be held liable to an owner, a lienholder, or any other person as a result of the issuance of a salvage certificate of title or a certificate of destruction pursuant to subparagraph 1.
- (9)(a) An insurance company may notify an independent entity that obtains possession of a damaged or dismantled motor vehicle <u>or vessel</u> to release the vehicle <u>or vessel</u> to the owner. The insurance company shall provide the independent entity a

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release statement on a form prescribed by the department authorizing the independent entity to release the vehicle <u>or vessel</u> to the owner or lienholder. The form must, at a minimum, contain the following:

- 1. The policy and claim number.
- 2. The name and address of the insured.
- 3. The vehicle identification number <u>or vessel hull</u> identification number.
- 4. The signature of an authorized representative of the insurance company.
- The independent entity in possession of a motor (b) vehicle or vessel must send a notice to the owner that the vehicle or vessel is available for pickup when it receives a release statement from the insurance company. The notice shall be sent by certified mail or by another commercially available delivery service that provides proof of delivery to the owner at the owner's address contained in the department's records. The notice must state that the owner has 30 days after delivery of the notice to the owner at the owner's address to pick up the vehicle or vessel from the independent entity. If the motor vehicle or vessel is not claimed within 30 days after the delivery or attempted delivery of the notice, the independent entity may apply for a certificate of destruction, a salvage certificate of title, or a certificate of title for a motor vehicle or for a certificate of title as defined in s.

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328.0015(1) for a vessel. For a vessel that is hull damaged as defined in s. 328.0015(1), the application shall indicate "Hull Damaged."

- (c) If the department's records do not contain the owner's address, the independent entity must do all of the following:
- 1. Send a notice that meets the requirements of paragraph (b) to the owner's address that is provided by the insurance company in the release statement.
- 2. For a motor vehicle, identify the latest titling jurisdiction of the vehicle through use of the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System or an equivalent commercially available system and attempt to obtain the owner's address from that jurisdiction. If the jurisdiction returns an address that is different from the owner's address provided by the insurance company, the independent entity must send a notice that meets the requirements of paragraph (b) to both addresses.
- (d) The independent entity shall maintain for at least a minimum of 3 years the records related to the 30-day notice sent to the owner. For motor vehicles, the independent entity shall also maintain for at least 3 years the results of searches of the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System or an equivalent commercially available system, and the notification to the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System made pursuant to paragraph (e).
- (e) The independent entity shall make the required 261981 h1517 line 78.docx

## COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT Bill No. HB 1517 (2024)

Amendment No.

notification to the National Motor Vehicle Title Information
System before releasing any damaged or dismantled motor vehicle
to the owner or before applying for a certificate of destruction
or salvage certificate of title. The independent entity is not
required to notify the National Motor Vehicle Title Information
System before releasing any damaged or dismantled vessel to the
owner or before applying for a certificate of title as defined
in s. 328.0015(1).

(f) Upon applying for a certificate of destruction or salvage certificate of title <u>for a motor vehicle or for a certificate of title or a certificate of title which indicates "Hull Damaged" as described in paragraph (b) for a vessel, the independent entity shall provide a</u>

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