Bill No. HB 1517 (2024)

Amendment No.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE	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WITHDRAWN	(Y/N)		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 hear	ing bill:	Transportation	& Modals
Subcommittee			

Representative Tramont offered the following:

Amendment

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Remove lines 78-201 and insert:

7 If the owner, however, retains possession of a motor vehicle or

8 mobile home in connection with a total loss claim settlement for

9 such motor vehicle or mobile home, the owner must, within 72

10 hours after the motor vehicle or mobile home becomes salvage, or

11 the insurance company must, within 72 hours after receiving the

12 <u>certificate of title for such motor vehicle or mobile home</u>,

13 forward the certificate of title to the motor vehicle or mobile

14 home to the department for processing, and the department must

15 issue a salvage certificate of title or certificate of

16 destruction from the department directly to the vehicle owner

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17 and not to the insurance company or its agent. The owner or 18 insurance company, as applicable, may not dispose of a <u>motor</u> 19 vehicle or mobile home that is a total loss before it obtains a 20 salvage certificate of title or certificate of destruction from 21 the department. Effective January 1, 2020:

22 Thirty days after payment of a claim for compensation 1. 23 pursuant to this paragraph, the insurance company may receive a 24 salvage certificate of title or certificate of destruction from 25 the department if the insurance company is unable to obtain a 26 properly assigned paper certificate of title from the owner or 27 lienholder of the motor vehicle or mobile home or a properly 28 completed assignment of an electronic certificate of title from 29 the owner of, if the motor vehicle or mobile home does not carry 30 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
<u>lienholder and has obtained proof that the lienholder accepts</u>
payment as satisfying the amount due to the lienholder;

35 b. Has attested on a form provided by the department that 36 payment of the total loss claim has been distributed; and Has attested on a form provided by the department and 37 с. signed by the insurance company or its authorized agent stating 38 the attempts that have been made to obtain the paper certificate 39 40 of title or a properly completed assignment of an electronic certificate of title from the owner or lienholder and further 41 261981 - h1517 - line 78.docx

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42 stating that all attempts are to no avail. The form must include a request that the salvage certificate of title or certificate 43 44 of destruction be issued in the insurance company's name due to 45 payment of a total loss claim to the owner or lienholder. The 46 attempts to contact the owner or lienholder may be by written 47 request delivered in person or by first-class mail with a 48 certificate of mailing to the owner's last known address or 49 lienholder's last known address, respectively.

50 2. If the owner or lienholder is notified of the request 51 for title <u>or assignment of title</u> in person, the insurance 52 company must provide an affidavit attesting to the in-person 53 request for a certificate of title or assignment of title.

3. The request to the owner or lienholder for the certificate of title <u>or to the owner for the assignment of title</u> 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.

59 <u>4. The department is not liable and may not be held liable</u> 60 <u>to an owner, a lienholder, or any other person as a result of</u> 61 <u>the issuance of a salvage certificate of title or a certificate</u> 62 <u>of destruction pursuant to subparagraph 1.</u>

(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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67 release statement on a form prescribed by the department 68 authorizing the independent entity to release the vehicle <u>or</u> 69 <u>vessel</u> to the owner or lienholder. The form must, at a minimum, 70 contain the following:

71 72 1. The policy and claim number.

2. The name and address of the insured.

73 3. The vehicle identification number <u>or vessel hull</u>
74 <u>identification number</u>.

75 4. The signature of an authorized representative of the76 insurance company.

77 The independent entity in possession of a motor (b) 78 vehicle or vessel must send a notice to the owner that the 79 vehicle or vessel is available for pickup when it receives a 80 release statement from the insurance company. The notice shall 81 be sent by certified mail or by another commercially available 82 delivery service that provides proof of delivery to the owner at the owner's address contained in the department's records. The 83 84 notice must state that the owner has 30 days after delivery of 85 the notice to the owner at the owner's address to pick up the 86 vehicle or vessel from the independent entity. If the motor 87 vehicle or vessel is not claimed within 30 days after the delivery or attempted delivery of the notice, the independent 88 89 entity may apply for a certificate of destruction, a salvage 90 certificate of title, or a certificate of title for a motor vehicle or for a certificate of title as defined in s. 91

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92 <u>328.0015(1) for a vessel. For a vessel that is hull damaged as</u> 93 <u>defined in s. 328.0015(1), the application shall indicate "Hull</u> 94 Damaged."

95 (c) If the department's records do not contain the owner's 96 address, the independent entity must do all of the following:

97 1. Send a notice that meets the requirements of paragraph
98 (b) to the owner's address that is provided by the insurance
99 company in the release statement.

100 2. For a motor vehicle, identify the latest titling 101 jurisdiction of the vehicle through use of the National Motor 102 Vehicle Title Information System or an equivalent commercially 103 available system and attempt to obtain the owner's address from 104 that jurisdiction. If the jurisdiction returns an address that 105 is different from the owner's address provided by the insurance 106 company, the independent entity must send a notice that meets 107 the requirements of paragraph (b) to both addresses.

108 The independent entity shall maintain for at least a (d) 109 minimum of 3 years the records related to the 30-day notice sent 110 to the owner. For motor vehicles, the independent entity shall also maintain for at least 3 years the results of searches of 111 the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System or an 112 equivalent commercially available system τ and the notification 113 114 to the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System made 115 pursuant to paragraph (e).

116 (e) The independent entity shall make the required 261981 - h1517 - line 78.docx

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117 notification to the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System before releasing any damaged or dismantled motor vehicle 118 119 to the owner or before applying for a certificate of destruction 120 or salvage certificate of title. The independent entity is not 121 required to notify the National Motor Vehicle Title Information 122 System before releasing any damaged or dismantled vessel to the 123 owner or before applying for a certificate of title as defined 124 in s. 328.0015(1). 125 (f) Upon applying for a certificate of destruction or 126 salvage certificate of title for a motor vehicle or for a

127 <u>certificate of title or a certificate of title which indicates</u> 128 <u>"Hull Damaged" as described in paragraph (b) for a vessel</u>, the 129 independent entity shall provide a

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