



Kansas Motor Carriers Association

Trucking Solutions Since 1936

Legislative Testimony

by the

Kansas Motor Carriers Association

before the

House Transportation Committee

Representative Shannon Francis, Chairman

Wednesday, February 15, 2023

In Opposition to House Bill No. 2147

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MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE:

I am Deann Williams, Executive Director of the Kansas Motor Carriers Association. I appear before you this afternoon along with, Lindsay Leibach, KMCA Director of Safety and Membership Services, representing our Towing and Recovery Division, in opposition to the provisions of House Bill No. 2147. The bill moves the process and expense of obtaining a Vehicle VIN Inspection (MVE-1) and titling a vehicle purchased at a Towing and Recovery Possessory Lien public auction from the Salvage Vehicle Dealer to a towing company or public agency providing towing and recovery service.

Currently, Vehicle Salvage Dealers are required to have in their possession a title for every vehicle they have in their salvage yard. When the remains of a vehicle are destroyed, the Salvage Vehicle Dealer must turn the title into the Division of Vehicles and then the vehicle information is removed from the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System. Two years ago we met with the Vehicle Salvage Dealer's State Representative and the Kansas Department of Revenue trying and resolve this problem.

Towing companies must follow strict guidelines when selling an abandoned vehicle to satisfy a Towing and Recovery Possessory Lien. We often refer to tow companies as the "Litter Control Officers of our Streets and Highways." Most of the vehicles they sell are not roadworthy are basically salvage and do not bring a lot of money at public auction. If HB 2147 was adopted, the cost of disposing these vehicles by the towing company would increase while the time and expense of the Vehicle Salvage Dealer would decrease. I truly doubt the Vehicle Salvage Dealer would pay more at the public auction to cover the tower's increased expenses.

Mr. Chairman, as we stated earlier in our testimony, HB 2147 unfairly shifts the time and expense of titling a vehicle from the Vehicle Salvage Dealer to an already burdened tow company. We would like to request a working group be formed between all interested parties, such as Division of Vehicles, Kansas Highway Patrol, KMCA,



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towing companies, salvage dealers, Representative Averkamp and any others that may have an interest in getting this legislation done correctly. This working group will alleviate us from discussions like this every year. The process is broken, so let's plan a method of operation that will work for all.

We respectfully request the House Transportation Committee report HB 2147 unfavorably.

We thank you for the opportunity to appear before you this afternoon and would be pleased to respond to any questions you may have.

