

Division of Vehicles
300 SW 29th Street
PO Box 2505
Topeka KS 66601-2505
Mark Burghart, Secretary



Phone: 785-296-3601
www.ksrevenue.org
Laura Kelly, Governor

Written Testimony

To: Chairman Francis and Members of the House Transportation Committee
From: Lee Ann Phelps, Vehicle Services Manager, Division of Vehicles
Date: February 15, 2023
RE: House Bill 2147

Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and members of the House Transportation Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present written testimony in support of HB 2147.

This bill would require an individual or agency selling a towed or abandoned vehicle to acquire a certificate of title prior to the auction.

Making this change would put the burden of having proper supporting documents on the seller, rather than the purchaser. The Division of Vehicles hears from many individuals and companies that buy vehicles from an auction under these circumstances where the vehicle has been the subject of a tow but the supporting documents have an error, usually that the timeline set out in statute has not been followed. There is no simple solution when a timeline has not been followed; you can't back the clock up. In this situation, buyers are directed to file a court claim to quiet title. Quiet title actions are costly and take time.

The Division supports this bill as it properly puts the burden on the seller to have a title prior to the sale putting the purchaser in a much better position to obtain title.

I will stand for questions at the appropriate time.