

SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-THIRD SESSION

S.F. No. 1579

(SENATE AUTHORS: JASINSKI)		
DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
02/13/2023	800	Introduction and first reading Referred to Transportation
03/16/2023	1816	Comm report: To pass
	1951	Second reading
	11498	Rule 47, returned to Transportation See HF2887

1.1

A bill for an act

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relating to motor vehicles; authorizing electronic signature to transfer ownership

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of vehicle to insurer after payment of damages; amending Minnesota Statutes

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2022, section 168A.151, subdivision 1.

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

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Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 168A.151, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

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Subdivision 1. **Salvage and prior salvage brands.** (a) When an insurer, licensed to

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conduct business in Minnesota, acquires ownership of a vehicle, excluding a recovered

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intact vehicle, through payment of damages, the insurer must:

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(1) for a late-model or high-value vehicle, immediately apply for a certificate of title

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that bears a "salvage" brand or stamp the existing certificate of title with "salvage" in a

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manner prescribed by the department; or

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(2) for a vehicle that is not subject to clause (1), immediately apply for a certificate of

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title that bears a "prior salvage" brand or stamp the existing certificate of title with "prior

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salvage" in a manner prescribed by the department.

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(b) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, supporting documents used to transfer

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ownership of a vehicle to an insurer after payment of damages do not require a notarized

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signature and may be signed electronically. For purposes of this paragraph, supporting

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documents include but are not limited to power of attorney forms. The insurer shall indemnify

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and hold harmless the department for any claims resulting from issuing a certificate of title,

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salvage title, or junking certificate pursuant to this section.

~~(b)~~ (c) Within ten days of obtaining the title of a vehicle through payment of damages, an insurer must notify the department in a manner prescribed by the department.

~~(e)~~ (d) Except as provided in section 168A.11, subdivision 1, a person must immediately apply for a certificate of title that bears a "salvage" brand if the person acquires a damaged late-model or high-value vehicle that:

(1) was acquired by an insurer through payment of damages;

(2) will incur a cost of repairs that exceeds the value of the damaged vehicle;

(3) has an out-of-state salvage certificate of title as proof of ownership; or

(4) bears the brand "damaged," "repairable," "salvage," or any similar term on the certificate of title.

~~(d)~~ (e) Except as provided in section 168A.11, subdivision 1, a person must immediately apply for a certificate of title that bears a "prior salvage" brand if the person acquires a damaged vehicle and:

(1) a "salvage" brand is not required under paragraph (c); and

(2) the vehicle:

(i) bears the brand "damaged," "repairable," "salvage," "rebuilt," "reconditioned," or any similar term on the certificate of title; or

(ii) had a salvage certificate of title or brand issued at any time in the vehicle's history by any other jurisdiction.

~~(e)~~ (f) A self-insured owner of a vehicle that sustains damage by collision or other occurrence which exceeds 80 percent of its actual cash value must:

(1) for a late-model or high-value vehicle, immediately apply for a certificate of title that bears a "salvage" brand; or

(2) for a vehicle that is not subject to clause (1), immediately apply for a certificate of title that bears a "prior salvage" brand.