FIRST REGULAR SESSION SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 456

98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Reported from the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, Energy and the Environment, March 19, 2015, with recommendation that the Senate Committee Substitute do pass.

1270S.03C

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

ANACT

To repeal sections 301.140, 301.190, and 407.581, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof three new sections relating to the ownership of motor vehicles.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 301.140, 301.190, and 407.581, RSMo, are repealed

- 2 and three new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 301.140,
- 3 301.190, and 301.213, to read as follows:

301.140. 1. Upon the transfer of ownership of any motor vehicle or trailer,

- 2 the certificate of registration and the right to use the number plates shall expire
- 3 and the number plates shall be removed by the owner at the time of the transfer
- 4 of possession, and it shall be unlawful for any person other than the person to
- 5 whom such number plates were originally issued to have the same in his or her
- 6 possession whether in use or not, unless such possession is solely for charitable
- 7 purposes; except that the buyer of a motor vehicle or trailer who trades in a motor
- 8 vehicle or trailer may attach the license plates from the traded-in motor vehicle
- 9 or trailer to the newly purchased motor vehicle or trailer. The operation of a
- 10 motor vehicle with such transferred plates shall be lawful for no more than thirty
- 11 days, or no more than ninety days if the dealer is selling the motor
- 12 **vehicle under the provisions of section 301.213**. As used in this subsection,
- 13 the term "trade-in motor vehicle or trailer" shall include any single motor vehicle
- 14 or trailer sold by the buyer of the newly purchased vehicle or trailer, as long as
- 15 the license plates for the trade-in motor vehicle or trailer are still valid.
- 16 2. In the case of a transfer of ownership the original owner may register
- 17 another motor vehicle under the same number, upon the payment of a fee of two

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18 dollars, if the motor vehicle is of horsepower, gross weight or (in the case of a 19 passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicle) seating capacity, not in excess of that originally registered. When such motor vehicle is of greater horsepower, 20 21gross weight or (in the case of a passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicle) 22 seating capacity, for which a greater fee is prescribed, applicant shall pay a 23 transfer fee of two dollars and a pro rata portion for the difference in fees. When such vehicle is of less horsepower, gross weight or (in case of a passenger-carrying 24 25 commercial motor vehicle) seating capacity, for which a lesser fee is prescribed, 26 applicant shall not be entitled to a refund.

- 3. License plates may be transferred from a motor vehicle which will no longer be operated to a newly purchased motor vehicle by the owner of such vehicles. The owner shall pay a transfer fee of two dollars if the newly purchased vehicle is of horsepower, gross weight or (in the case of a passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicle) seating capacity, not in excess of that of the vehicle which will no longer be operated. When the newly purchased motor vehicle is of greater horsepower, gross weight or (in the case of a passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicle) seating capacity, for which a greater fee is prescribed, the applicant shall pay a transfer fee of two dollars and a pro rata portion of the difference in fees. When the newly purchased vehicle is of less horsepower, gross weight or (in the case of a passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicle) seating capacity, for which a lesser fee is prescribed, the applicant shall not be entitled to a refund.
- 4. The director of the department of revenue shall have authority to produce or allow others to produce a weather resistant, nontearing temporary permit authorizing the operation of a motor vehicle or trailer by a buyer for not more than thirty days, or no more than ninety days if issued by a dealer selling the motor vehicle under the provisions of section 301.213, from 44 the date of purchase. The temporary permit authorized under this section may be purchased by the purchaser of a motor vehicle or trailer from the central office 46 of the department of revenue or from an authorized agent of the department of revenue upon proof of purchase of a motor vehicle or trailer for which the buyer has no registration plate available for transfer and upon proof of financial responsibility, or from a motor vehicle dealer upon purchase of a motor vehicle 51 or trailer for which the buyer has no registration plate available for transfer, or 52 from a motor vehicle dealer upon purchase of a motor vehicle or trailer for which 53 the buyer has registered and is awaiting receipt of registration plates. The

director of the department of revenue or a producer authorized by the director of 54 55 the department of revenue may make temporary permits available to registered 56 dealers in this state, authorized agents of the department of revenue or the department of revenue. The price paid by a motor vehicle dealer, an authorized 57 agent of the department of revenue or the department of revenue for a temporary 58 permit shall not exceed five dollars for each permit. The director of the 59 department of revenue shall direct motor vehicle dealers and authorized agents 60 to obtain temporary permits from an authorized producer. Amounts received by 61 62 the director of the department of revenue for temporary permits shall constitute 63 state revenue; however, amounts received by an authorized producer other than 64 the director of the department of revenue shall not constitute state revenue and 65 any amounts received by motor vehicle dealers or authorized agents for temporary 66 permits purchased from a producer other than the director of the department of revenue shall not constitute state revenue. In no event shall revenues from the 67 68 general revenue fund or any other state fund be utilized to compensate motor vehicle dealers or other producers for their role in producing temporary permits 69 70 as authorized under this section. Amounts that do not constitute state revenue under this section shall also not constitute fees for registration or certificates of 7172title to be collected by the director of the department of revenue under section 301.190. No motor vehicle dealer, authorized agent or the department of revenue 73 74 shall charge more than five dollars for each permit issued. The permit shall be valid for a period of thirty days, or no more than ninety days if issued by 75 76 a dealer selling the motor vehicle under the provisions of section 77301.213, from the date of purchase of a motor vehicle or trailer, or from the date of sale of the motor vehicle or trailer by a motor vehicle dealer for which the 78 purchaser obtains a permit as set out above. No permit shall be issued for a 79 80 vehicle under this section unless the buyer shows proof of financial responsibility. Each temporary permit issued shall be securely fastened to the 81 82 back or rear of the motor vehicle in a manner and place on the motor vehicle consistent with registration plates so that all parts and qualities of the temporary 83 permit thereof shall be plainly and clearly visible, reasonably clean and are not 84 85 impaired in any way.

5. The permit shall be issued on a form prescribed by the director of the department of revenue and issued only for the applicant's temporary operation of the motor vehicle or trailer purchased to enable the applicant to temporarily operate the motor vehicle while proper title and registration plates are being

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obtained, or while awaiting receipt of registration plates, and shall be displayed on no other motor vehicle. Temporary permits issued pursuant to this section shall not be transferable or renewable and shall not be valid upon issuance of proper registration plates for the motor vehicle or trailer. The director of the 93 department of revenue shall determine the size, material, design, numbering 94 configuration, construction, and color of the permit. The director of the 95 department of revenue, at his or her discretion, shall have the authority to 96 reissue, and thereby extend the use of, a temporary permit previously and legally 97 98 issued for a motor vehicle or trailer while proper title and registration are being obtained. 99

- 6. Every motor vehicle dealer that issues temporary permits shall keep, for inspection by proper officers, an accurate record of each permit issued by recording the permit number, the motor vehicle dealer's number, buyer's name and address, the motor vehicle's year, make, and manufacturer's vehicle identification number, and the permit's date of issuance and expiration date. Upon the issuance of a temporary permit by either the central office of the department of revenue, a motor vehicle dealer or an authorized agent of the department of revenue, the director of the department of revenue shall make the information associated with the issued temporary permit immediately available to the law enforcement community of the state of Missouri.
- 7. Upon the transfer of ownership of any currently registered motor vehicle wherein the owner cannot transfer the license plates due to a change of motor vehicle category, the owner may surrender the license plates issued to the motor vehicle and receive credit for any unused portion of the original registration fee against the registration fee of another motor vehicle. Such credit shall be granted based upon the date the license plates are surrendered. No refunds shall be made on the unused portion of any license plates surrendered for such credit.
- 8. The provisions of subsections 4, 5, and 6 of this section shall expire 118 119 July 1, 2019.
- 9. An additional temporary license plate produced in a manner and of materials determined by the director to be the most cost-effective means of production with a configuration that matches an existing or newly issued plate 123 may be purchased by a motor vehicle owner to be placed in the interior of the vehicle's rear window such that the driver's view out of the rear window is not obstructed and the plate configuration is clearly visible from the outside of the

vehicle to serve as the visible plate when a bicycle rack or other item obstructs the view of the actual plate. Such temporary plate is only authorized for use when the matching actual plate is affixed to the vehicle in the manner prescribed in subsection 5 of section 301.130. The fee charged for the temporary plate shall be equal to the fee charged for a temporary permit issued under subsection 4 of this section. Replacement temporary plates authorized in this subsection may be issued as needed upon the payment of a fee equal to the fee charged for a temporary permit under subsection 4 of this section. The newly produced third plate may only be used on the vehicle with the matching plate, and the additional plate shall be clearly recognizable as a third plate and only used for the purpose specified in this subsection.

10. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 301.127, the director may issue a temporary permit to an individual who possesses a salvage motor vehicle which requires an inspection under subsection 9 of section 301.190. The operation of a salvage motor vehicle for which the permit has been issued shall be limited to the most direct route from the residence, maintenance, or storage facility of the individual in possession of such motor vehicle to the nearest authorized inspection facility and return to the originating location. Notwithstanding any other requirements for the issuance of a temporary permit under this section, an individual obtaining a temporary permit for the purpose of operating a motor vehicle to and from an examination facility as prescribed in this subsection shall also purchase the required motor vehicle examination form which is required to be completed for an examination under subsection 9 of section 301.190 and provide satisfactory evidence that such vehicle has passed a motor vehicle safety inspection for such vehicle as required in section 307.350.

11. The director of the department of revenue may promulgate all necessary rules and regulations for the administration of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2012, shall be invalid and void.

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12. The repeal and reenactment of this section shall become effective on 163 the date the department of revenue or a producer authorized by the director of the department of revenue begins producing temporary permits described in 165 subsection 4 of such section, or on July 1, 2013, whichever occurs first. If the 166 director of revenue or a producer authorized by the director of the department of 167 revenue begins producing temporary permits prior to July 1, 2013, the director 168 of the department of revenue shall notify the revisor of statutes of such fact.

301.190. 1. No certificate of registration of any motor vehicle or trailer, or number plate therefor, shall be issued by the director of revenue unless the 2 3 applicant therefor shall make application for and be granted a certificate of ownership of such motor vehicle or trailer, or shall present satisfactory evidence that such certificate has been previously issued to the applicant for such motor vehicle or trailer. Application shall be made within thirty days after the applicant acquires the motor vehicle or trailer, unless the motor vehicle was acquired under section 301.213 in which case the applicant shall make application within thirty days after receiving title from the dealer, upon 10 a blank form furnished by the director of revenue and shall contain the applicant's identification number, a full description of the motor vehicle or trailer, 11 the vehicle identification number, and the mileage registered on the odometer at 12 the time of transfer of ownership, as required by section 407.536, together with 13 a statement of the applicant's source of title and of any liens or encumbrances on 14 the motor vehicle or trailer, provided that for good cause shown the director of 15 16 revenue may extend the period of time for making such application. When an 17 owner wants to add or delete a name or names on an application for certificate of ownership of a motor vehicle or trailer that would cause it to be inconsistent 18 with the name or names listed on the notice of lien, the owner shall provide the 19 20 director with documentation evidencing the lienholder's authorization to add or 21 delete a name or names on an application for certificate of ownership.

2. The director of revenue shall use reasonable diligence in ascertaining whether the facts stated in such application are true and shall, to the extent possible without substantially delaying processing of the application, review any odometer information pertaining to such motor vehicle that is accessible to the director of revenue. If satisfied that the applicant is the lawful owner of such motor vehicle or trailer, or otherwise entitled to have the same registered in his name, the director shall thereupon issue an appropriate certificate over his signature and sealed with the seal of his office, procured and used for such

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purpose. The certificate shall contain on its face a complete description, vehicle 31 identification number, and other evidence of identification of the motor vehicle 32 or trailer, as the director of revenue may deem necessary, together with the odometer information required to be put on the face of the certificate pursuant to 33 section 407.536, a statement of any liens or encumbrances which the application 34 may show to be thereon, and, if ownership of the vehicle has been transferred, the 35 name of the state issuing the transferor's title and whether the transferor's 36 odometer mileage statement executed pursuant to section 407.536 indicated that 37 the true mileage is materially different from the number of miles shown on the 38 39 odometer, or is unknown.

- 3. The director of revenue shall appropriately designate on the current and all subsequent issues of the certificate the words "Reconstructed Motor Vehicle", "Motor Change Vehicle", "Specially Constructed Motor Vehicle", or "Non-USA-Std Motor Vehicle", as defined in section 301.010. Effective July 1, 1990, on all original and all subsequent issues of the certificate for motor vehicles as referenced in subsections 2 and 3 of section 301.020, the director shall print on the face thereof the following designation: "Annual odometer updates may be available from the department of revenue.". On any duplicate certificate, the director of revenue shall reprint on the face thereof the most recent of either:
- (1) The mileage information included on the face of the immediately prior certificate and the date of purchase or issuance of the immediately prior certificate; or
- (2) Any other mileage information provided to the director of revenue, and the date the director obtained or recorded that information.
- 4. The certificate of ownership issued by the director of revenue shall be manufactured in a manner to prohibit as nearly as possible the ability to alter, 55 counterfeit, duplicate, or forge such certificate without ready detection. In order 56 to carry out the requirements of this subsection, the director of revenue may contract with a nonprofit scientific or educational institution specializing in the 58 analysis of secure documents to determine the most effective methods of 59 rendering Missouri certificates of ownership nonalterable or noncounterfeitable. 60
 - 5. The fee for each original certificate so issued shall be eight dollars and fifty cents, in addition to the fee for registration of such motor vehicle or trailer. If application for the certificate is not made within thirty days after the vehicle is acquired by the applicant, or where the motor vehicle was acquired under section 301.213 and the applicant fails to make application

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within thirty days after receiving title from the dealer, a delinquency 66 67 penalty fee of twenty-five dollars for the first thirty days of delinquency and twenty-five dollars for each thirty days of delinquency thereafter, not to exceed a total of two hundred dollars, but such penalty may be waived by the director for 69 a good cause shown. If the director of revenue learns that any person has failed 70 to obtain a certificate within thirty days after acquiring a motor vehicle or trailer, 7172 or where the motor vehicle was acquired under section 301.213 and the 73 applicant fails to make application within thirty days after receiving title from the dealer, or has sold a vehicle without obtaining a certificate, he 74shall cancel the registration of all vehicles registered in the name of the person, 75either as sole owner or as a co-owner, and shall notify the person that the 76 cancellation will remain in force until the person pays the delinquency penalty 78 fee provided in this section, together with all fees, charges and payments which 79 the person should have paid in connection with the certificate of ownership and 80 registration of the vehicle. The certificate shall be good for the life of the motor vehicle or trailer so long as the same is owned or held by the original holder of 81 82 the certificate and shall not have to be renewed annually.

- 6. Any applicant for a certificate of ownership requesting the department of revenue to process an application for a certificate of ownership in an expeditious manner requiring special handling shall pay a fee of five dollars in addition to the regular certificate of ownership fee.
- 7. It is unlawful for any person to operate in this state a motor vehicle or trailer required to be registered under the provisions of the law unless a certificate of ownership has been applied for as provided in this section.
- 8. Before an original Missouri certificate of ownership is issued, an inspection of the vehicle and a verification of vehicle identification numbers shall be made by the Missouri state highway patrol on vehicles for which there is a current title issued by another state if a Missouri salvage certificate of title has been issued for the same vehicle but no prior inspection and verification has been made in this state, except that if such vehicle has been inspected in another state by a law enforcement officer in a manner comparable to the inspection process in this state and the vehicle identification numbers have been so verified, the applicant shall not be liable for the twenty-five dollar inspection fee if such applicant submits proof of inspection and vehicle identification number verification to the director of revenue at the time of the application. The applicant, who has such a title for a vehicle on which no prior inspection and

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verification have been made, shall pay a fee of twenty-five dollars for such verification and inspection, payable to the director of revenue at the time of the request for the application, which shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the state highways and transportation department fund.

- 9. Each application for an original Missouri certificate of ownership for a vehicle which is classified as a reconstructed motor vehicle, specially constructed motor vehicle, kit vehicle, motor change vehicle, non-USA-std motor vehicle, or other vehicle as required by the director of revenue shall be accompanied by a vehicle examination certificate issued by the Missouri state highway patrol, or other law enforcement agency as authorized by the director of revenue. The vehicle examination shall include a verification of vehicle identification numbers and a determination of the classification of the vehicle. The owner of a vehicle which requires a vehicle examination certificate shall present the vehicle for examination and obtain a completed vehicle examination certificate prior to submitting an application for a certificate of ownership to the director of revenue. Notwithstanding any provision of the law to the contrary, an owner presenting a motor vehicle which has been issued a salvage title and which is ten years of age or older to a vehicle examination described in this subsection in order to obtain a certificate of ownership with the designation prior salvage motor vehicle shall not be required to repair or restore the vehicle to its original appearance in order to pass or complete the vehicle examination. The fee for the vehicle examination application shall be twenty-five dollars and shall be collected by the director of revenue at the time of the request for the application and shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the state highways and transportation department fund. If the vehicle is also to be registered in Missouri, the safety inspection required in chapter 307 and the emissions inspection required under chapter 643 shall be completed and the fees required by section 307.365 and section 643.315 shall be charged to the owner.
- 10. When an application is made for an original Missouri certificate of ownership for a motor vehicle previously registered or titled in a state other than Missouri or as required by section 301.020, it shall be accompanied by a current inspection form certified by a duly authorized official inspection station as described in chapter 307. The completed form shall certify that the manufacturer's identification number for the vehicle has been inspected, that it is correctly displayed on the vehicle and shall certify the reading shown on the odometer at the time of inspection. The inspection station shall collect the same

fee as authorized in section 307.365 for making the inspection, and the fee shall be deposited in the same manner as provided in section 307.365. If the vehicle is also to be registered in Missouri, the safety inspection required in chapter 307 and the emissions inspection required under chapter 643 shall be completed and only the fees required by section 307.365 and section 643.315 shall be charged to the owner. This section shall not apply to vehicles being transferred on a manufacturer's statement of origin.

- 11. Motor vehicles brought into this state in a wrecked or damaged condition or after being towed as an abandoned vehicle pursuant to another state's abandoned motor vehicle procedures shall, in lieu of the inspection required by subsection 10 of this section, be inspected by the Missouri state highway patrol in accordance with subsection 9 of this section. If the inspection reveals the vehicle to be in a salvage or junk condition, the director shall so indicate on any Missouri certificate of ownership issued for such vehicle. Any salvage designation shall be carried forward on all subsequently issued certificates of title for the motor vehicle.
- 12. When an application is made for an original Missouri certificate of ownership for a motor vehicle previously registered or titled in a state other than Missouri, and the certificate of ownership has been appropriately designated by the issuing state as a reconstructed motor vehicle, motor change vehicle, specially constructed motor vehicle, or prior salvage vehicle, the director of revenue shall appropriately designate on the current Missouri and all subsequent issues of the certificate of ownership the name of the issuing state and such prior designation. The absence of any prior designation shall not relieve a transferor of the duty to exercise due diligence with regard to such certificate of ownership prior to the transfer of a certificate. If a transferor exercises any due diligence with regard to a certificate of ownership, the legal transfer of a certificate of ownership without any designation that is subsequently discovered to have or should have had a designation shall be a transfer free and clear of any liabilities of the transferor associated with the missing designation.
- 13. When an application is made for an original Missouri certificate of ownership for a motor vehicle previously registered or titled in a state other than Missouri, and the certificate of ownership has been appropriately designated by the issuing state as non-USA-std motor vehicle, the director of revenue shall appropriately designate on the current Missouri and all subsequent issues of the certificate of ownership the words "Non-USA-Std Motor Vehicle".

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174 14. The director of revenue and the superintendent of the Missouri state 175 highway patrol shall make and enforce rules for the administration of the 176 inspections required by this section.

- 15. Each application for an original Missouri certificate of ownership for a vehicle which is classified as a reconstructed motor vehicle, manufactured forty or more years prior to the current model year, and which has a value of three thousand dollars or less shall be accompanied by:
- 181 (1) A proper affidavit submitted by the owner explaining how the motor 182 vehicle or trailer was acquired and, if applicable, the reasons a valid certificate 183 of ownership cannot be furnished;
 - (2) Photocopies of receipts, bills of sale establishing ownership, or titles, and the source of all major component parts used to rebuild the vehicle;
 - (3) A fee of one hundred fifty dollars in addition to the fees described in subsection 5 of this section. Such fee shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the state highways and transportation department fund; and
 - (4) An inspection certificate, other than a motor vehicle examination certificate required under subsection 9 of this section, completed and issued by the Missouri state highway patrol, or other law enforcement agency as authorized by the director of revenue. The inspection performed by the highway patrol or other authorized local law enforcement agency shall include a check for stolen vehicles. The department of revenue shall issue the owner a certificate of ownership designated with the words "Reconstructed Motor Vehicle" and deliver such certificate of ownership in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. Notwithstanding subsection 9 of this section, no owner of a reconstructed motor vehicle described in this subsection shall be required to obtain a vehicle examination certificate issued by the Missouri state highway patrol.
 - 301.213. 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 301.200 and 301.210, any person licensed as a motor vehicle dealer under sections 301.550 to 301.573 that has provided to the director of revenue a surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit in an amount not less than one hundred thousand dollars in a form which complies with the requirements of section 301.560 and in lieu of the twenty-five thousand dollar bond otherwise required for licensure as a motor vehicle dealer, shall be authorized to purchase or accept in trade any motor vehicle for which there has been issued a certificate of ownership, and to receive

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such vehicle subject to any existing liens thereon created and perfected under sections 301.600 to 301.660 provided the licensed dealer receives the following:

- 13 (1) A signed written contract between the licensed dealer and the 14 owner of the vehicle; and
 - (2) Physical delivery of the vehicle to the licensed dealer; and
- 16 (3) A power of attorney from the owner to the licensed dealer, in 17 accordance with subsection 4 of section 301.300, authorizing the 18 licensed dealer to obtain a duplicate or replacement title in the owner's 19 name and sign any title assignments on the owner's behalf.
 - 2. If the dealer complies with the requirements of subsection 1 of this section, the sale or trade of the vehicle to the dealer shall be considered final, subject to any existing liens created and perfected under sections 301.600 to 301.660. Once the prior owner of the motor vehicle has physically delivered the motor vehicle to the licensed dealer, the prior owners' insurable interest in such vehicle shall cease to exist.
 - 3. If a licensed dealer complies with the requirements of subsection 1 of this section, and such dealer has provided to the director of revenue a surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit in amount not less than one hundred thousand dollars in a form which complies with the requirements of section 301.560 and in lieu of the twenty-five thousand dollar bond otherwise required for licensure as a motor vehicle dealer, such dealer may sell such vehicle prior to receiving and assigning to the purchaser the certificate of ownership, provided such dealer complies with the following:
 - (1) All outstanding liens created on the vehicle pursuant to sections 301.600 to 301.660 have been paid in full, and the dealer provides a copy of proof or other evidence to the purchaser; and
 - (2) The dealer has obtained proof or other evidence from the department of revenue confirming that no outstanding child support liens exist upon the vehicle at the time of sale and provides a copy of said proof or other evidence to the purchaser; and
- (3) The dealer has obtained proof or other evidence from the department of revenue confirming that all applicable state sales tax has been satisfied on the sale of the vehicle to the previous owner and provides a copy of said proof or other evidence to the purchaser; and

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47 (4) The dealer has signed an application for duplicate or 48 replacement title for the vehicle under subsection 4 of section 301.300 49 and provides a copy of the application to the purchaser, along with a 50 copy of the power of attorney required by subsection 1 of this section, 51 and the dealer has prepared and delivered to the purchaser an 52 application for title for the vehicle in the purchaser's name; and

(5) The dealer and the purchaser have entered into a written agreement for the subsequent assignment and delivery of such certificate of ownership, on a form prescribed by the director of revenue, to take place at a time, not to exceed sixty calendar days, after the time of delivery of the motor vehicle to the purchaser. Such agreement shall require the purchaser to provide to the dealer proof of financial responsibility in accordance with chapter 303 and proof of comprehensive and collision coverage on the motor vehicle. Such dealer shall maintain the original or an electronic copy of the signed agreement and deliver a copy of the signed agreement to the purchaser. Such dealer shall also complete and deliver to the director of revenue such form as the director shall prescribe demonstrating that the purchaser has purchased the vehicle without contemporaneous delivery of the title. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, completion of the requirements of this subsection shall constitute prima facie evidence

67 69 of an ownership interest vested in the purchaser of the vehicle for all 70 purposes other than for a subsequent transfer of ownership of the 71vehicle by the purchaser, subject to the rights of any secured lienholder 72of record; however, the purchaser may use the dealer-supplied copy of the agreement to transfer his or her ownership of the vehicle to an insurance company in situations where the vehicle has been declared 74salvage or a total-loss by the insurance company as a result of a 75 settlement of a claim. The purchaser may also use the dealer-supplied 76 copy of the agreement on the form prescribed by the director of 78 revenue as proof of ownership interest. Any lender or insurance company may rely upon a copy of the signed written agreement on the 79 form prescribed by the director of revenue as proof of ownership. Any lien placed upon a vehicle based upon such signed written agreement shall be valid and enforceable, notwithstanding the absence of a 82 certificate of ownership. 83

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4. Following a sale or other transaction in which a certificate of ownership has not been assigned from the owner to the licensed dealer, the dealer shall, within ten business days, apply for a duplicate or replacement certificate of ownership. Upon receipt of a duplicate or replacement certificate of ownership applied for under subsection 4 of 88 section 301.300, the dealer shall assign and deliver said certificate of ownership to the purchaser of the vehicle within five business days. The dealer shall maintain proof of the assignment and delivery of the certificate of ownership to the purchaser. For purposes of this subsection, a dealer shall be deemed to have delivered the certificate of ownership to the purchaser upon either:

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- (1) Physical delivery of the certificate of ownership to any of the purchasers identified in the contract with such dealer; or
- (2) Mailing of the certificate, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, to any of the purchasers at any of their addresses identified in the contract with such dealer.
- 5. If a licensed dealer fails to comply with subsection 3 of this section, and the purchaser of the vehicle is thereby damaged, then the dealer shall be liable to the purchaser of the vehicle for actual damages, plus court costs and reasonable attorney fees.
- 6. If a licensed dealer fails or is unable to comply with subsection 4 of this section, and the purchaser of the vehicle is thereby damaged, then the dealer shall be liable to the purchaser of the vehicle for actual damages, plus court costs and reasonable attorney fees. If the dealer cannot be found by the purchaser after making reasonable attempts, or if the dealer fails to assign and deliver the duplicate or replacement certificate of ownership to the purchaser by the date agreed upon by the dealer and the purchaser, as required by subsection 4 of this section, then the purchaser may deliver to the director a copy of the contract for sale of the vehicle, a copy of the application for duplicate title provided by the dealer to the purchaser, a copy of the secure power of attorney allowing the dealer to assign the duplicate title, and the proof or other evidence obtained by the purchaser from the dealer under subsection 3 of this section. Thereafter, the director shall mail by certified mail, return receipt requested, a notice to the dealer at the last address given to the department by that dealer. That notice shall inform the dealer that the director intends to cancel any

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121 prior certificate of title issued to the dealer on the vehicle and issue to 122 the purchaser a certificate of title in the name of the purchaser, subject 123 to any liens incurred by the purchaser in connection with the purchase of the vehicle, unless the dealer, within ten business days from the date 124 125 of the director's notice, files with the director a written objection to the director taking such action. If the dealer does file a timely, written 126 objection with the director, then the director shall not take any further 127 action without an order from a court of competent 128 129 jurisdiction. However, if the dealer does not file a timely, written objection with the director, then the director shall cancel the prior 130 certificate of title issued to the dealer on the vehicle and issue a 131 certificate of tile to the purchaser of the vehicle, subject to any liens 132 incurred by the purchaser in connection with the purchase of the 133 134 vehicle and subject to the purchaser satisfying all applicable taxes and 135 fees associated with registering the vehicle.

- 7. If a seller misrepresents to a dealer that the seller is the owner of a vehicle and the dealer, the owner, any subsequent purchaser, or any prior or subsequent lienholder is thereby damaged, then the seller shall be liable to each such party for actual and punitive damages, plus court costs and reasonable attorney fees.
- 8. When a lienholder is damaged as a result of a licensed dealer's acts, errors, omissions, or violations of this section, then the dealer shall be liable to the lienholder for actual damages, plus court costs and reasonable attorney fees.
- 9. No court costs or attorney fees shall be awarded under this section unless, prior to filing any such action, the following conditions have been met:
- 148 (1) The aggrieved party seeking damages has delivered an 149 itemized written demand of the party's actual damages to the party 150 from whom damages are sought; and
- 151 (2) The party from whom damages are sought has not satisfied 152 the written demand within thirty days after receipt of the written 153 demand.
- 10. The department of revenue may use a dealer's repeated or intentional violation of this section as a cause to refuse to issue or renew any license required pursuant to sections 301.550 to 301.573, in addition to the causes set forth in section 301.562. The hearing process

shall be the same as that established in subsection 6 of section 301.562.

[407.581. 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 301.200 and 301.210, any person licensed as a motor vehicle dealer under sections 301.550 to 301.573 shall be authorized to purchase or accept in trade any motor vehicle for which there has been issued a certificate of title, and to receive such vehicle subject to any existing liens thereon created and perfected under sections 301.600 to 301.660 provided the licensed dealer receives the following:

- (1) A signed written contract between the licensed dealer and the owner of the vehicle; and
- (2) Physical delivery of the vehicle to the licensed dealer; and
- (3) A power of attorney from the owner to the licensed dealer, in accordance with subsection 4 of section 301.300, authorizing the licensed dealer to obtain a duplicate or replacement title in the owner's name and sign any title assignments on the owner's behalf.
- 2. If the dealer complies with the requirements of subsection 1 of this section, the sale or trade of the vehicle to the dealer shall be considered final.
- 3. If a licensed dealer complies with the requirements of subsection 1 of this section, the licensed dealer may sell such vehicle prior to receiving and assigning to the purchaser the certificate of title, provided such dealer complies with the following:
- (1) All outstanding liens created on the vehicle pursuant to sections 301.600 to 301.660 have been paid in full, and the dealer provides a copy of proof or other evidence to the purchaser; and
- (2) The dealer has obtained proof or other evidence from the department of revenue confirming that no outstanding child support liens exist upon the vehicle at the time of sale and provides a copy of said proof or other evidence to the purchaser; and
- (3) The dealer has obtained proof or other evidence from the department of revenue confirming that all applicable state sales tax has been satisfied on the sale of the vehicle to the previous owner and provides a copy of said proof or other evidence to the

36 purchaser; and

(4) The dealer has signed and submitted an application for duplicate or replacement title for the vehicle pursuant to subsection 4 of section 301.300 and provides a copy of the application to the purchaser, along with a copy of the power of attorney required under subsection 1 of this section.

- 4. Following a sale or other transaction in which a certificate of title has not been assigned from the owner to the dealer, a licensed dealer shall, within five business days, apply for a duplicate or replacement title. Upon receipt of a duplicate or replacement title applied for pursuant to subsection 4 of section 301.300, the dealer shall assign and deliver said certificate of title to the purchaser of the vehicle within five business days. The dealer shall maintain proof of the assignment and delivery of the certificate of title to the purchaser. For purposes of this subsection, a dealer shall be deemed to have delivered the certificate of title to the purchaser upon either:
- (1) Physical delivery of the certificate of title to any of the purchasers identified in the contract with the dealer; or
- (2) Mailing of the certificate, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, to any of the purchasers at any of their addresses identified in the contract with the dealer.
- 5. If a dealer fails to comply with subsection 3 of this section, and the purchaser of the vehicle is thereby damaged, then the dealer shall be liable to the purchaser of the vehicle for actual damages, plus court costs and reasonable attorney fees.
- 6. If a dealer fails to comply with subsection 4 of this section, and the purchaser of the vehicle is thereby damaged, then the dealer shall be liable to the purchaser of the vehicle for actual damages, plus court costs and reasonable attorney fees. If the dealer cannot be found by the purchaser after making reasonable attempts, and thereby fails to assign and deliver the duplicate or replacement certificate of title to the purchaser, as required by subsection 4 of this section, then the purchaser may deliver to the director a copy of the contract for sale of the vehicle, a copy of the application for duplicate title provided by the dealer to the

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purchaser, a copy of the secure power of attorney allowing the dealer to assign the duplicate title, and the proof or other evidence obtained by the purchaser from the dealer under subsection 3 of this section. Thereafter, the director shall mail by certified mail, return receipt requested, a notice to the dealer at the last address given to the department by that dealer. That notice shall inform the dealer that the director intends to cancel any prior certificate of title issued to the dealer on the vehicle and issue to the purchaser a certificate of title in the name of the purchaser, subject to any liens incurred by the purchaser in connection with the purchase of the vehicle, unless the dealer, within ten business days from the date of the director's notice, files with the director a written objection to the director taking such action. If the dealer does file a timely, written objection with the director, then the director shall not take any further action without an order from a court of competent jurisdiction. However, if the dealer does not file a timely, written objection with the director, then the director shall cancel the prior certificate of title issued to the dealer on the vehicle and issue a certificate of title to the purchaser of the vehicle, subject to any liens incurred by the purchaser in connection with the purchase of the vehicle and subject to the purchaser satisfying all applicable taxes and fees associated with registering the vehicle.

- 7. If a seller fraudulently misrepresents to a dealer that the seller is the owner of a vehicle and the dealer or any subsequent purchaser is thereby damaged, then the seller shall be liable to the dealer and any subsequent purchaser for actual damages, plus court costs and reasonable attorney fees.
- 8. When a lienholder is damaged as a result of acts or omissions by the dealer to the lienholder or any party covered by subsections 5, 6, and 7 of this section, or by any combination of claims under this subsection, then the dealer shall be liable to the lienholder for actual damages, plus court costs and reasonable attorney fees.
- 9. No court costs or attorney fees shall be awarded under this section unless, prior to filing any such action, the following

108	conditions have been met:
109	(1) The aggrieved party seeking damages has delivered an
110	itemized written demand of the party's actual damages to the party
111	from whom damages are sought; and
112	(2) The party from whom damages are sought has not
113	satisfied the written demand within thirty days after receipt of the
114	written demand.]

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