

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 604

BY REPRESENTATIVE DAVIS

MOTOR VEHICLES: Provides for the transfer of ownership of a vehicle to an insurer

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 32:705(B)(3) and to enact R.S. 32:707(B)(3), relative to the  
3 transfer of ownership of a vehicle; to provide for the transfer of ownership to an  
4 insurer resulting from a claim settlement; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 32:705(B)(3) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.  
7 32:707(B)(3) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §705. Delivery of certificate to purchaser of vehicle

9 \* \* \*

10 B. For purposes of this Section, an "endorsement" means one of the  
11 following:

12 \* \* \*

13 (3) The signature of the seller if the certificate of title or other document  
14 transferring ownership to an insurance company is for a motor vehicle which is  
15 subject to an insurance settlement or has been declared a total loss by that insurance  
16 company.

17 \* \* \*

18 §707. Application for certificates of title; exception; salvage title; antique vehicles;  
19 reconstructed title

20 \* \* \*

1 B.

2 \* \* \*

3 (3) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a transfer of  
4 ownership of a vehicle to an insurer, resulting from the settlement of a total loss  
5 claim, shall not require a notarized signature on the vehicle's certificate of title.  
6 Supporting documents required for a transfer of ownership of a vehicle to an insurer,  
7 resulting from the settlement of a total loss claim, shall not require a notarized  
8 signature, if signed electronically at a National Institute of Standards (NIST) Level  
9 2 or higher authentication.

10 \* \* \*

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 604 Engrossed

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Davis

**Abstract:** Provides for the transfer of ownership of a vehicle to an insurer.

Present law, in pertinent part, defines "endorsement" as the signature of a seller if the certificate of title or other document transferring ownership to an insurance company is for a motor vehicle which has been declared a total loss by that insurance company.

Proposed law modifies present law to include the signature of a seller if the certificate of title or other document transferring ownership to an insurance company is for a motor vehicle which is the subject of an insurance settlement.

Present law requires any purchaser of a vehicle, other than a mobile home, to file an application for a new certificate of title within five days after the delivery of a previously issued certificate of title for such vehicle, or within five days of the delivery of the vehicle, if a certificate of title has not been previously issued.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that a transfer of ownership of a vehicle to an insurer, resulting from the settlement of a total loss claim does not require a notarized signature on the vehicle's certificate of title.

Proposed law provides that supporting documents required for a transfer of ownership of a vehicle to an insurer, resulting from the settlement of a total loss claim, does not require a notarized signature, if signed electronically at a National Institute of Standards (NIST) Level 2 or higher authentication.

(Amends R.S. 32:705(B)(3); Adds R.S. 32:707(B)(3))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Modify the meaning of "endorsement" in present law to include the signature of a seller if the certificate of title or other document transferring ownership to an insurance company is for a motor vehicle which is the subject of an insurance settlement.