

Sixty-sixth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1407

Introduced by

Representatives Grueneich, Blum, Bosch, Howe, Schobinger

Senator Meyer

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 39-05-20 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to the issuance of certificates of vehicle title.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 39-05-20 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **39-05-20. Transferee may obtain new certificate of title upon inability to obtain old**
7 **certificate - Proof of ownership - Appeal.**

8 1. When the transferee of a vehicle is unable to obtain a properly assigned certificate of
9 title for a vehicle, and makes application for a new certificate and presents satisfactory
10 proof of ownership, the department may cancel the old certificate and issue a new
11 certificate to the transferee, provided that the department may not issue a certificate of
12 title for a manufactured home with respect to which there has been recorded an
13 affidavit of affixation under section 47-10-27. Satisfactory proof of ownership must
14 include compliance by the transferee with the procedures outlined in title 35, that the
15 transferee has paid for the vehicle, and that the transferee made at least two written
16 attempts by certified mail with return receipt addressed to the owner of record and any
17 known lienholder to obtain the certificate of title.

18 2. The department may establish procedures for determining satisfactory proof of
19 ownership of a vehicle in those cases when the department is unable to determine the
20 legal owner of record. Any person aggrieved by a decision of the department as to
21 ownership of a vehicle may appeal that decision to the district court under chapter
22 28-32.

23 2-3. A person holding a certificate of title whose interests in the vehicle have been
24 extinguished or transferred other than by voluntary transfer shall mail or deliver the

1 certificate to the department upon request of the department. The delivery of the
2 certificate pursuant to the request of the department does not affect the rights of the
3 person surrendering the certificate. The action of the department in issuing a new
4 certificate of title as provided herein is not conclusive upon the rights of the owner or
5 lienholder listed in the old certificate.