

# Transportation Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** HB-5365

**Title:** AN ACT CONCERNING CERTIFICATES OF TITLE.

**Vote Date:** 3/24/2022

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable Substitute

**PH Date:** 3/9/2022

**File No.:**

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## **SPONSORS OF BILL:**

Transportation Committee  
Rep. Jason Doucette, 13th Dist.

## **REASONS FOR BILL:**

The purpose of this legislation is to ensure that buyers of motor vehicles from online retailers receive titles in a timely manner. The legislation also allows for the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue electronic titles.

## **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

None expressed

## **NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

Connecticut Automotive Retailers Association (CARA): CARA submitted testimony in support of Sections 1 and 2 of the legislation. The association has received several complaints in recent years from consumers who have not received titles from an online retailer in a timely manner. These buyers were given temporary tags for long periods of time with no options for recourse. The association believes this legislation will help address this issue and provide more consumer protections for those purchasing vehicles from an online retailer.

Bruce Adams, President and CEO, Credit Union League of Connecticut: The league submitted testimony in support of Section 3 of the legislation. Electric vehicle liens and titles (ELT) have been approved for use in 24 states. Technological advances have allowed for vehicle titles to be distributed, filed, and edited electronically. The ELT system also allows for physical copies of titles to be produced if requested by a consumer or lienholder. ELTs are

more efficient than paper titles and can be even more secure. ELTs reduce costs for retailers and states as it eliminates the printing and mailing of physical copies of titles.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

John Lee, Manager of Government Affairs, Carvana: Carvana submitted testimony in opposition to Section 3 of the legislation. Carvana argued that this legislation will add more paper-based requirements for dealers which in turn could limit vehicle choice and create delays in the delivery of vehicles. Carvana attributed economy-wide delivery delays to the complexity of interstate registration that is done by means of paper. However, Carvana welcomed Section 3 of the legislation and believes this could alleviate delays. With the provisions of Section 3, requiring a paper title upon delivery would lead to greater inefficiency and would not be necessary.

**Reported by: Glenn Prushinski, Assistant Clerk    Date: 4/1/2022**  
**Phil Mainiero, Committee Clerk**