

- 1 SB96
- 2 EBWV229-1
- 3 By Senator Carnley
- 4 RFD: Banking and Insurance
- 5 First Read: 05-Feb-25



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4	SYNOPSIS:
5	Under existing law, Alabama vehicle owners may
6	only apply for a salvage certificate of title to retain
7	their vehicle if the vehicle is damaged and declared a
8	total loss within the state.
9	This bill would provide that Alabama vehicle
10	owners may apply for a salvage certificate of title if
11	their vehicle is damaged and declared a total loss in
12	any state.
13	This bill would also make nonsubstantive,
14	technical revisions to update the existing code
15	language to current style.
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18	A BILL
19	TO BE ENTITLED
20	AN ACT
21	
22	Relating to salvage vehicle certificates of title; to
23	amend Section 32-8-87, Code of Alabama 1975; to provide that
24	Alabama vehicle owners may apply for a salvage certificate of
25	title if their vehicle is declared a loss in any state; and to
26	make nonsubstantive, technical revisions to update the
27	existing code language to current style.
28	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:



29 Section 1. Section 32-8-87 of the Code of Alabama 1975, 30 is amended to read as follows:

31

"\$32-8-87

32 (a) (1) Each owner of a motor vehicle and each person 33 individual mentioned as owner in the last certificate of title 34 who scraps, dismantles, destroys, or changes the motor vehicle 35 in such a manner that it is not the same motor vehicle 36 described in the certificate of origin or certificate of title 37 shall as soon as practicable cause the certificate of origin or certificate of title, if any, and any other documents or 38 39 information required by the department to be mailed or delivered to the department for processing. 40

41 (2) The department shall, with the consent of any 42 holder of liens noted on the surrendered certificate, shall 43 enter a cancellation upon its records. Upon cancellation of a certificate of origin or certificate of title in the manner 44 45 prescribed by this section, the department shall cancel all 46 certificates of origin or certificates of title in that chain 47 of title. A certificate of title for the vehicle shall not 48 again be issued except upon application containing the 49 information the department requires, accompanied by a 50 certificate of inspection in the form and content as specified 51 in this section.

52 (3) No motor vehicle for which a salvage or junk 53 certificate has been issued by this state or any other state 54 shall be driven or operated on the highways or other public 55 places of this state. A vehicle which is in this state and for 56 which a salvage certificate has been issued, and the vehicle



57 is being restored to its operating condition which existed 58 prior to the event which caused the salvage certificate of 59 title to issue, may be moved to and from repair points as 60 necessary by the rebuilder to complete the restoration or may be moved as permitted by the Department of Revenue department 61 62 for inspection or for any other purpose. A valid Alabama 63 dealer license plate shall be displayed on the vehicle during 64 its movement. A person An individual who violates this subsection subdivision shall, upon conviction, be quilty of a 65 Class A misdemeanor and shall be punishable as required by 66 67 law.

(b) (1) When the frame or engine is removed from a motor vehicle and not immediately replaced by another frame or engine, or when an insurance company has paid money or made other monetary settlement as compensation for a total loss of any motor vehicle, the motor vehicle shall be considered to be salvage.

74 The owner of every motor vehicle in which the total 75 loss or salvage has occurred and which has a current title 76 issued in this state or the vehicle is located in this state 77 at the time of title application or branding or both in this 78 state, shall, within 72 hours after the total loss or salvage 79 occurs, shall make application for a salvage certificate of 80 title and forward to the department the certificate of origin or certificate of title to the motor vehicle, whereupon and 81 the department shall process the certificate of origin or 82 certificate of title in a manner prescribed by law or 83 84 regulation rule.



An insurance company which that pays money or makes 85 86 other monetary settlement as compensation for total loss of a 87 motor vehicle shall at the time of payment or monetary 88 settlement obtain the vehicle's properly assigned certificate of origin or certificate of title and, as soon as practicable 89 90 after receiving it, shall forward it along with their 91 application for a salvage certificate, to the department for 92 processing.

In the event the payment or monetary settlement was made because of the theft of the vehicle, which shall be considered a total loss as defined in this section, the insurance company shall forward the vehicle's properly assigned certificate of origin or certificate of title as provided herein, to the department as soon as practicable after the vehicle is recovered.

(2) When a stolen motor vehicle has been reported to 100 101 the department in compliance with this section and is later 102 recovered, and for which a salvage certificate has been 103 issued, the owner recorded on the salvage certificate shall 104 assign that certificate to the purchaser. A person An 105 individual who violates this subsection shall, upon 106 conviction, be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor and shall be 107 punishable as required by law.

(c) If an insurance company acquires a motor vehicle in settlement of an insurance claim and holds the vehicle for resale and procures the certificate of origin or certificate of title from the owner or lienholder within 15 days after delivery of the vehicle to the insurance company, and if the



113 vehicle was not a total loss as defined by this section subsection (d), the insurance company need not send the 114 115 certificate of origin or certificate of title to the 116 department but, upon transferring the vehicle to another 117 person individual, other than by the creation of a security 118 interest, the insurance company shall complete an affidavit of 119 acquisition and disposition of the motor vehicle on a form 120 prescribed by the department and deliver the certificate of 121 origin or certificate of title, affidavit, and any other 122 documents required by the department to the transferee at the 123 time of delivery of the motor vehicle.

(d) (1) For the purposes of this section, a total loss 124 125 shall occur when an insurance company or any other person 126 individual pays or makes other monetary settlement to a person 127 an individual when a vehicle is damaged and the damage to the 128 vehicle is greater than or equal to 75 percent of the fair 129 retail value of the vehicle prior to damage as set forth in a 130 current edition of a nationally recognized compilation of 131 retail values, including automated data bases databases.

The compensation for total loss as defined in this subsection shall not include payments by an insurer or other <u>person_individual</u> for medical care, bodily injury, vehicle rental, or for anything other than the amount paid for the actual damage to the motor vehicle. A vehicle that has sustained minor damage as a result of theft or vandalism shall not be considered a total loss.

139 Any <u>person individual</u> acquiring ownership of a damaged 140 motor vehicle that meets the definition of total loss for



141 which a salvage title has not been issued shall apply for a 142 salvage title, other than a scrap metal processor acquiring 143 <u>such the</u> vehicle for purposes of recycling into metallic scrap 144 for remelting purposes only. This application shall be made 145 before the vehicle is further transferred, but in any event, 146 within 30 days after ownership is acquired.

147 (e) It shall be unlawful for the owner of any junkyard, salvage yard, or automotive dismantler and parts recycler or 148 149 his or her agents or employees to have in their possession any motor vehicle which that is junk or salvage or a total loss 150 151 when the manufacturer's vehicle identification number plate or plates, authorized replacement vehicle identification number 152 153 plate or plates, or serial plate or plates have been removed, 154 unless previously required to be removed by a statute or law 155 of this state or another jurisdiction. A person An individual who violates this subsection shall, upon conviction, be guilty 156 of a Class A misdemeanor and shall be punishable as required 157 158 by law.

159 (f) It shall be unlawful for a person, firm, or 160 corporation an individual to possess, sell or exchange, offer 161 to sell or exchange, or to give away any certificate of origin, certificate of title, salvage certificate of title, 162 163 manufacturer's identification number plate or plates, 164 authorized replacement vehicle identification number plate-or plates, serial plate or plates, or motor vehicle license plate 165 166 or plates of any motor vehicle which that has been scrapped, dismantled, or sold as junk or salvage or as a total loss 167 168 contrary to in violation of this section, subsection. An



individual who violates this subsection shall and every
officer, agent, or employee of a person, firm, or corporation,
and every person who shall authorize, direct, aid in or
consent to the possession, sale or exchange, or offer to sell,
exchange, or give away such certificate of origin, certificate
of title, salvage certificate of title, manufacturer's vehicle
identification number plate or plates, authorized replacement
vehicle identification number plate or plates, serial plate or
plates, or motor vehicle license plate or plates contrary to
this section, shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class A
misdemeanor and shall be punishable as required by law.
(g) The department is authorized <u>may</u> to issue a salvage
certificate of title for a fee of fifteen dollars (\$15), on a
form prescribed by the department which shall provide for
assignments of this the salvage certificate of title. The
salvage certificate of title is to shall replace a certificate
of origin or certificate of title required to be surrendered
by this section. The department shall prescribe necessary
forms and procedures to comply with this subsection.
(h) It shall be unlawful for <mark>a person</mark> an individual to
sign as assignor or for a person an individual to have in his
or her possession a salvage certificate of title which that
has been signed by the owner as assignor without the name of
the assignee and other information called for on the form
prescribed by the department. <u>A person An individual</u> who
violates this subsection, upon conviction, shall be guilty of
a Class A misdemeanor and shall be punishable as required by

196 law.



197 (i) Every owner of a salvage or junk motor vehicle who sells or transfers the vehicle to any person individual shall 198 199 provide at the time of the sale or transfer a properly 200 executed assignment and warranty of title to the transferee in 201 the space provided therefor on the salvage certificate of 202 title or junk certificate of title or as the department 203 prescribes. A person An individual who willfully violates this 204 subsection shall, upon conviction, be quilty of a Class A 205 misdemeanor and shall be punishable as required by law.

(j) (1) The department may issue a certificate of title to any motor vehicle for which a salvage certificate has been issued by this or any other state, and the vehicle has, in this state, been completely restored to its operating condition which existed prior to the event which caused the salvage certificate of title to issue, provided that all requirements of this section have been met.

213 (2) The department may issue a certificate of title for 214 any motor vehicle for which a salvage certificate of title has 215 been issued by this or any other state or when the department 216 has evidence that a salvage title should have been issued by 217 this or any other state, and the vehicle has been completely 218 restored outside of this state to its operating condition 219 which existed prior to the event which caused the salvage 220 certificate of title to be issued, provided the department is 221 satisfied that the vehicle was rebuilt in the other state in 222 accordance with that state's salvage rebuilding laws.

223 (3) Any motor vehicle for which a certificate of title 224 has been issued by any state with the notation of junk, parts



225 car, parts only, nonrebuildable, or when a certificate of 226 destruction or bill of sale has been issued for transfer of 227 the vehicle with similar language shall be considered to be a 228 junk vehicle and shall not be titled in this state.

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
subsection In addition, no certificate of title may be issued
for any vehicle where the frame or the majority of the major
component parts were obtained from a junk vehicle as
previously defined.

234 (k) Every owner of a salvage motor vehicle designated a 235 1975 year model and all models subsequent thereto which is in 236 this state and which has been restored in this state to its 237 operating condition which existed prior to the event which 238 caused the salvage certificate of title to issue shall make 239 application to the department for an inspection of the vehicle 240 in the form and content as determined by the department. Each application for inspection of a salvage vehicle which has been 241 242 so restored shall be accompanied by all of the following:

243 (1) The outstanding salvage certificate or out-of-state 244 title previously issued for the salvage vehicle.

(2) Notarized bills of sale evidencing acquisition of all major component parts, *(Listing the manufacturer's vehicle* identification number of the vehicle from which the parts were removed, if parts contain or should contain the manufacturer's vehicle identification number, used to restore the vehicle and bills of sale evidencing acquisition of all minor component parts. Notarization shall not be required on bills of sale for



252 minor component parts; provided, that a notarized bill of sale 253 which lists the manufacturer's vehicle identification number 254 of the vehicle from which the parts were removed, if parts 255 contain or should contain the manufacturer's vehicle 256 identification number, shall be required for a transmission.

257 (3) Evidence that the owner is a licensed motor vehicle rebuilder, as defined in Section 40-12-390, unless otherwise 258 259 exempt from the licensing requirement by Chapter 12 of Title 260 40. Notwithstanding the foregoing, where an owner acquires an Alabama salvage certificate of title to his or her own vehicle 261 262 from his or her insurance company in settlement of a claim, a 263 prior registration or other documentation that shows that the 264 owner owned the vehicle prior to the salvage title being 265 issued may be submitted in lieu of a rebuilder's license.

266 (4) The owner shall also provide a A written
267 affirmation which states by the owner stating all of the
268 following:

269 a. The actions taken to restore the vehicle to its 270 operating condition which existed prior to the event which 271 caused the salvage certificate to issue.

272 b. That the owner personally inspected the completed 273 vehicle and it complies with all safety requirements set forth 274 by the State of Alabama and any regulations-promulgated 275 adopted thereunder.

c. That the identification numbers of the restored
vehicle and its parts have not, to the knowledge of the owner,
been removed, destroyed, falsified, altered, or defaced.

d. That the salvage certificate document or



280 out-of-state title certificate attached to the application has 281 not to the knowledge of the owner been forged, falsified, 282 altered, or counterfeited.

e. That all information contained on the application
and its attachments is true and correct to the knowledge of
the owner.

286 <u>f. The An acknowledgment that the</u> owner, as specified 287 in subsection (r), shall be required to post a bond in 288 accordance with Section 32-8-36 in the event that the owner 289 cannot provide any information required in this subsection (k) 290 or any other information specified by the department.

(1) The application fee for each inspection of a
restored vehicle shall be seventy-five dollars (\$75), payable
to the department in a manner as prescribed by the department,
which and shall accompany the application.

295 (1) All application fees and title fees received by the 296 department pursuant to this subsection shall be applied toward 297 the personnel and maintenance costs of the vehicle inspection 298 program and the vehicle inspection program shall be conducted 299 by the office of investigations and inspections of the 300 department. Upon receipt of the application for inspection, 301 application fee of seventy-five dollars (\$75), its supporting 302 documents, and title fee of fifteen dollars (\$15), payable to 303 the department in a manner as prescribed by the department, 304 the department shall require an inspection to be made of the title and the vehicle by qualified agents or law enforcement 305 officers of the department. 306

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(2) The inspection and certification shall include an



308 examination of the vehicle and its parts to determine that the 309 identification numbers of the vehicle or its parts have not 310 been removed, falsified, altered, defaced, destroyed, or 311 tampered with; that the vehicle information contained in the 312 application for certificate of title and supporting documents 313 is true and correct; and that there are no indications that 314 the vehicle or any of its parts are stolen. The certification 315 shall not attest to the roadworthiness or safety condition of 316 the vehicle. (m) Component parts are defined as: 317

- 318 (1) PASSENGER VEHICLES.
- 319 a. Major components:
- 320 1. Motor or engine.
- 321 2. Trunk floor pan or rear section and roof.

322 3. Frame or any portion thereof, (except frame horn), 323 or, in the case of a unitized body, the supporting structure 324 which serves as the frame, except when it is a part of the 325 trunk floor pan, or rear section and roof.

- 326 4. Cowl, firewall, or any portion thereof.
- 327 5. Roof assembly.
- 328 b. Minor components:
- 329 1. Each door allowing entrance to or egress from the 330 passenger compartment.
- 331 2. Hood.

332 3. Each front fender or each rear fender when used with333 a rear section and roof.

334 4. Deck lid, tailgate, or hatchback, (whichever is
335 present).



336	5. Each quarter panel.
337	6. Each bumper.
338	7. T-tops, moon roof, or whichever is present.
339	8. Transmission or trans-axle.
340	(2) TRUCK, TRUCK TYPE, OR BUS TYPE VEHICLE.
341	a. Major components:
342	1. Motor or engine.
343	2. Transmission or trans-axle.
344	3. Frame or any portion thereof <u>,</u> (except frame horn) ,
345	or, in the case of a unitized body, the supporting structure
346	which serves as the frame.
347	4. Cab.
348	5. Cowl or firewall or any portion thereof.
349	6. Roof assembly.
350	7. Cargo compartment floor panel or passenger
351	compartment floor pan.
352	b. Minor components:
353	1. Each door.
354	2. Hood.
355	3. Grill, except on one ton or smaller trucks.
356	4. Each bumper.
357	5. Each front fender.
358	6. Roof panel and rear cab panel.
359	7. Each rear fender or side panel.
360	8. Pickup box.
361	9. Body or bed.
362	(3) MOTORCYCLE: COMPONENT PARTS.
363	a. Engine or motor.



364 b. Transmission or trans-axle.

365 c. Frame.

d. Front fork.

367 e. Crankcase.

368 (n) A salvage vehicle which that has been restored in 369 this state to its operating condition which existed prior to 370 the event which caused the salvage certificate of title to 371 issue shall be issued a certificate of title which shall 372 contain the word "rebuilt."

(o) (1) Each salvage vehicle restored or rebuilt in this 373 374 state which is required to be inspected by the department pursuant to subsection (1) and for which a certificate of 375 376 title may be issued pursuant to subsection (n) shall be issued 377 a decal, plate, or other emblem as prescribed by the 378 department to reflect that the vehicle is rebuilt. The decal, 379 plate, or other emblem shall be attached to the vehicle in a 380 place and in a manner prescribed by the department.

381 (2) <u>A person An individual</u> who willfully removes, 382 mutilates, tampers with, obliterates, or destroys a decal, 383 plate, or other emblem issued and attached to a salvage 384 vehicle pursuant to this subsection is guilty of a Class A 385 misdemeanor <u>punishable as provided by law</u>.

(p) Each <u>person individual</u> who sells, exchanges, delivers, or otherwise transfers any interest in any vehicle for which a title bearing the designation salvage or rebuilt has been issued shall disclose in writing the existence of this title to the prospective purchaser, recipient in exchange, recipient by donation, or recipient by other act of



392 transfer. The disclosure, which shall be made at the time of 393 or prior to the completion of the sale, exchange, donation, or 394 other act of transfer, shall contain the following information 395 in no smaller than 10 point type: "This vehicle's title 396 contains the designation salvage or rebuilt."

(q) (1) Any motor vehicle for which an insurance company has paid a total loss due, in part, to being damaged by water shall be deemed a flood vehicle. The motor vehicle's certificate of title and every subsequent certificate of title shall contain the designation "flood vehicle."

402 (2) Each person individual who sells, exchanges, 403 donates, delivers, or otherwise transfers any interest for 404 which a certificate of title bearing the designation flood 405 vehicle has been issued shall disclose in writing the 406 existence of this designation to the prospective purchaser, 407 recipient in exchange, recipient by donation, or recipient by other act of transfer. The disclosure shall be made at the 408 409 time of or prior to the completion of the sale, exchange, 410 donation, delivery, or other act of transfer and shall contain 411 the following information in no smaller than 10 point type: 412 "The certificate of title of this motor vehicle contains the 413 designation flood vehicle."

(r) If an owner acquires a salvage vehicle for which a previous insurer or owner did not properly obtain a salvage title from this or any other state or the vehicle was rebuilt by a rebuilder who is no longer licensed as a rebuilder, the current owner may proceed as provided in subsection (k) and apply for an inspection of the vehicle. In any case where the



department has determined that an insurer or prior owner did not properly obtain a salvage certificate of title, a prior registration or other documentation that shows that the owner owned the vehicle prior to the notification by the department may be submitted in lieu of a rebuilder's license.

425 (s) (1) a. A licensed automotive dismantler and parts recycler as defined in Section 40-12-410, secondary metals 426 427 recycler as defined in Section 13A-8-30, who acquires a motor 428 vehicle for the purpose of dismantling it or recycling it into metallic scrap for melting purposes, or any person individual 429 430 who crushes a motor vehicle acquired from anyone other than a 431 licensed automotive dismantler and parts recycler or a 432 secondary metal recycler, except as provided in subdivision 433 (2), shall surrender any certificate of title received to the 434 department for cancellation in a manner as prescribed by the department. A notice of cancellation shall be submitted and a 435 436 receipt of the notice shall be obtained from the department 437 prior to crushing the vehicle or dismantling the vehicle or 438 recycling it into metallic scrap for remelting purposes. A 439 licensed automotive dismantler and parts recycler or secondary 440 metals recycler shall file the notice electronically and the 441 department, at the time of filing, shall provide the filer 442 with an electronic notice of receipt. The licensed automotive 443 dismantler and parts recycler or secondary metals recycler 444 shall maintain the properly assigned original certificate of 445 title when the notice is filed electronically. The department shall verify through its records that the title is the current 446 447 title of the motor vehicle and that the vehicle is not



448 reported as stolen prior to issuing the receipt.

449 b. Each licensed automotive dismantler and parts 450 recycler, secondary metals recycler, and any other person 451 individual who crushes a motor vehicle shall maintain records 452 of every motor vehicle crushed or acquired for the purpose of 453 dismantling it or recycling it into metallic scrap for 454 remelting purposes. The records shall be maintained by these 455 parties for a period of not less than five years and shall 456 include the vehicle identification number, name and address of the seller, copy of the seller's state issued driver's driver 457 458 license or identification card, the date of sale, and a copy of the certificate of title surrendered to the department. In 459 460 the event that a person an individual crushes a vehicle or 461 vehicles on behalf of the owner but does not acquire the 462 vehicle or vehicles, that person individual shall maintain a 463 record of the vehicle identification number, and the name and 464 address of the entity for whom the vehicles were crushed, as 465 well as a copy of the person's individual's state issued 466 driver's driver license or identification card, or state 467 issued tax ID number if the entity is not a natural person. 468 For purposes of this chapter, a crushed motor vehicle as 469 defined in Section 40-12-116 shall not be deemed a motor 470 vehicle or vehicle; provided, however, that any person 471 individual who is responsible for transforming a motor vehicle 472 into a crushed motor vehicle is responsible for complying with 473 this section.

474 (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title475 to the contrary, if the owner or authorized agent of the owner



476 of a motor vehicle has not obtained a title in his or her name 477 for the motor vehicle to be transferred, he or she may sign a 478 sworn statement that, in addition to the foregoing conditions, 479 the vehicle is worth one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or less and 480 is at least 12 model years old. The statement described in 481 this subsection may be used only to transfer such a motor 482 vehicle to a licensed automotive dismantler and parts recycler 483 as defined at in Section 40-12-410 or secondary metals 484 recycler as defined at in Section 13A-8-30 and shall be used in lieu of a certificate of title when the motor vehicle is 485 486 being dismantled or recycled into metallic scrap. The 487 department, in consultation with the above industries, shall 488 promulgate adopt a form for the statement which shall include, 489 but not be limited to, all of the following information:

490 a. A statement that the motor vehicle shall never be491 titled again and that it must be dismantled or scrapped.

492 b. A description of the motor vehicle including the493 year, make, model, and vehicle identification number.

494 c. The license plate number and state of issue of any495 vehicle transporting the motor vehicle being sold.

496 d. The name, address, and <u>driver's driver</u> license
497 number of the seller.

e. A certification by the seller that the seller is
lawfully in possession of the vehicle and the seller is the
current owner of the vehicle and the seller never obtained a
title to the motor vehicle in his or her name.

502 f. A certification that the motor vehicle meets all of 503 the following requirements:



504 1. Is worth one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or less. 505 2. Is at least 12 model years old. 506 3. Is not subject to any recorded security interest or 507 lien. 508 q. An acknowledgment, made under penalties of perjury, 509 that the seller realizes this information will be filed with 510 the department and that it is a Class C felony to knowingly 511 falsify any information on this statement. 512 h. The seller's signature and the date of the 513 transaction. 514 i. The name and address of the business acquiring the vehicle. 515 516 j. The unique registration number provided by the 517 Administrator of the National Motor Vehicle Title Information 518 System known as the NMVTIS ID Number. k. A certification by the business, made under 519 520 penalties of perjury, that one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or 521 less was paid to acquire the vehicle. 522 1. The business agent's signature and date along with a 523 printed name and title if the agent is signing on behalf of a 524 corporation. 525 m. The unique tracking number provided by a Department 526 of Revenue system that indicates that the automotive 527 dismantler and parts recycler or secondary metals recycler has 528 utilized that system to verify that the vehicle is not 529 currently reported as stolen and that there is no recorded

530 lien or notice of a lien on file or that the department has no
531 record of the vehicle. A licensed automotive dismantler and

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532 parts recycler or secondary metals recycler shall file the 533 notice electronically, and the department shall provide the 534 filer with an electronic notice of receipt. This statement 535 shall be invalid without this tracking number and without the 536 purchaser's NMVTIS ID Number.

n. An <u>acknowledgement</u> acknowledgment by the automotive dismantler and parts recycler or secondary metals recycler that the motor vehicle will not be crushed or shredded for a period of 48 hours not including Saturday and Sunday after the initial filing with the department of the notice required in this subsection and receipt of <u>such</u> the notice.

543 (3) The automotive dismantler and parts recycler or 544 secondary metals recycler shall electronically deliver the 545 statement required under this subsection to the department 546 within 72 hours of the completion of the transaction, 547 requesting that the department cancel the certificate of title 548 and registration. A transmission of the identical information, 549 in the identical format as prescribed by the Alabama Department of Revenue department, shall be sent by the 550 551 automotive dismantler and parts recycler or secondary metals 552 recycler to the sheriff of the county, or the chief of police 553 if located in a municipality, if requested by the sheriff or 554 chief of police. The transmittal shall be completed and a 555 receipt of the notice, generated at the time of the 556 transmittal, shall be obtained from the department before 557 dismantling the vehicle or recycling it into metallic scrap for remelting purposes. In addition, the automotive dismantler 558 559 and parts recycler or secondary metals recycler shall maintain



560 the original signed documents required by this subsection for 561 a period of not less than five years. An automotive dismantler 562 and parts recycler or secondary metals recycler who has 563 complied with the requirements of this section shall be immune 564 from, and held harmless from, any claims related to liens 565 which were not recorded or a notice of lien was not recorded, 566 or stolen vehicles not reported, at the time that the vehicle 567 was purchased and the inquiry made and documented with the 568 unique tracking number issued by the department.

569 (4) Any person individual who knowingly and willfully 570 violates this subsection, or any person individual who falsifies the statement required under this subsection, or any 571 person individual who knowingly and willfully sells a vehicle 572 573 upon which there is an unsatisfied lien, shall be guilty of a 574 Class C felony. In addition to any punishment rendered, each 575 person individual convicted shall be subject to the laws 576 regarding restitution.

577 (5) Any motor vehicle used to transport another motor 578 vehicle or crushed motor vehicle illegally sold under this 579 section may be seized by law enforcement and is subject to 580 forfeiture ordered by the court; provided, however, that no 581 motor vehicle used by any person individual in the transaction 582 of a sale of such motor vehicle shall be subject to forfeiture 583 unless the owner or other person individual in charge of the 584 motor vehicle is a consenting or knowing party to the commission of a crime, and a forfeiture of the motor vehicle 585 is subject to the rights of any lienholder who holds a 586 587 perfected security interest in the motor vehicle so long as



588 the lienholder had no knowledge of or consented to the act. 589 Whenever property is forfeited under this subsection by order 590 of the court, it shall be sold and the proceeds distributed, 591 pro rata after payment of all property expenses relating to 592 the forfeiture and sale, including any court ordered 593 restitution to the owner of the vehicle, satisfaction of any 594 liens associated with the vehicle sold in violation of this 595 section, and any losses incurred by the automotive dismantler 596 and parts recycler or secondary metals recycler to the general 597 fund of the state or any county or municipality whose 598 department, office, or agency contributed to the investigation of the acts resulting in forfeiture, based upon the 599 600 contribution, including expenses, of the department, office, 601 or agency, as determined by the court.

602 (t) The Department of Revenue department shall provide a system for a real-time online verification of motor vehicle 603 604 titles, liens, and stolen vehicle status that can be accessed 605 by an automotive dismantler and parts recycler or a secondary 606 metals recycler. The system shall be capable of transmitting 607 the information from the statement required pursuant to 608 subsection (s) either online or by bulk electronic 609 transmission and shall provide a unique tracking number on a 610 receipt at the time of the submission that indicates that the automotive dismantler and parts recycler or a secondary metals 611 612 recycler has used the system and that at the time of the 613 inquiry, the vehicle was not reported as stolen and that there were no recorded liens or notices of liens on file associated 614 615 with the vehicle, or that the department has no record of the



616 vehicle. The charge assessed for the transmittal of the 617 statement required by subsection (s) to the automotive 618 dismantler and parts recycler or secondary metals recycler 619 shall be five dollars (\$5) per submittal. In lieu of a per 620 submittal charge, an automotive dismantler and parts recycler 621 or a secondary metals recycler may pay an annual fee of five 622 hundred dollars (\$500) for all submittals and inquiries made 623 during that fiscal year. The fee shall be paid on a fiscal 624 year basis, beginning October 1 of each fiscal year. Every automotive dismantler and parts recycler, secondary metals 625 626 recycler, or person individual or company licensed pursuant to Section 40-12-116, shall pay the annual fee for each location 627 628 or license. Any fees collected under this section shall be 629 retained by the department for use solely by the Motor Vehicle 630 Division of the department for training and technological and processing improvements." 631

632 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October633 1, 2025.