STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 46th Legislature (1998)

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR ENGROSSED
HOUSE BILL NO. 2272

By: Satterfield and Pope (Tim) of the House

and

Long of the Senate

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to motor vehicles; amending Section 4, Chapter 50, O.S.L. 1995 (47 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 953.1), which relates to wrecker and towing services fees; increasing certain rates; setting fees and charges for storage of towed vehicles; amending 47 O.S. 1991, Section 1105, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 208, O.S.L. 1995 (47 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 1105), which relates to certificates of title; modifying certain declarations; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 4, Chapter 50, O.S.L. 1995 (47 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 953.1), is amended to read as follows:

Section 953.1 A. The rates and provisions of this section shall apply only to determine the maximum fees and charges for wrecker or towing services performed in this state, including incorporated and unincorporated areas, by a wrecker or towing service licensed by the Department of Public Safety when ~~such~~ that service appears on the rotation log of the Department or on the rotation log of any municipality, county or other political subdivision of this state, and the services performed are at the request or at the direction of any officer of the Department or of a municipality, county, or political subdivision. No wrecker or towing service in the performance of these services shall charge any fee which exceeds the maximum rates established in this

section. Such rates shall be in addition to any other rates, fees or charges authorized or required by law. Any wrecker or towing service is authorized to collect from the owner, lienholder or agent of any towed or stored vehicle, the fee required by Section 904 of this title.

B. When wrecker or towing services are performed as provided in subsection A of this section:

1. Each performance of a wrecker or towing service shall be recorded by the operator on a bill or invoice as prescribed by rules of the Department;

2. Nothing herein shall limit the right of an operator who has provided or caused to be provided wrecker or towing services to require prepayment, in part or in full, or guarantee of payment of any charges incurred for providing such services;

3. This section shall not be construed to require an operator to charge a fee for the performance of any wrecker or towing services; and

4. The operator is authorized to collect all lawful fees from the owner, lienholder or agent of the towed vehicle for the performance of any and all such services.

C. Distance rates.

1. Rates in this subsection shall apply to the distance the towed vehicle is transported and shall include services of the operator of the wrecker vehicle. Hourly rates, as provided in subsection D of this section, may be applied in lieu of distance rates. Hourly rates may be applied from the time the wrecker vehicle is assigned to the service call until the time it is released from service either upon return to the premises of the wrecker or towing service or upon being assigned to perform another wrecker or towing service, whichever occurs first. When the hourly rate is applied in lieu of distance towing rates, the operator may not apply the two-hour minimum prescribed in subsection D of this section nor may hookup or mileage charges, as prescribed in this section, be applied.

Such distance rates shall be computed via the shortest highway mileage as determined from the latest official Oklahoma Department of Transportation state highway map, except as follows:

a. for distances or portions of distances not specifically provided for in the governing highway map, the actual mileage via the shortest practical route will apply,

b. in computing distances, fractions of a mile will be retained until the final and full mileage is determined, at which time any remaining fraction shall be increased to the next whole mile,

c. when, due to circumstances beyond the control of the wrecker or towing service, roadway conditions make it impractical to travel via the shortest route, distance rates shall be computed based on the shortest practical route over which the wrecker vehicle and the vehicle it is towing can be moved, which route shall be noted on the bill or invoice, or

d. when the wrecker or towing service is performed upon any turnpike or toll road, the turnpike or toll road mileage shall be used to determine the distance rates charged and the turnpike or toll road fees may be added to the bill or invoice.

2. Maximum distance rates shall be as follows:

Weight of Towed Vehicle (In pounds, including equipment and lading)	Distance Towed	Rate Per Mile
Single vehicle: 8,000 or less	25 miles or less	~~$2.41~~ $2.89
Single vehicle: 8,000 or less	Over 25 miles	~~$1.95~~ $2.34
Single vehicle: 8,001 to 12,000	25 miles or less	~~$2.73~~ $3.28
Single vehicle: 8,001 to 12,000	Over 25 miles	~~$2.41~~ $2.89
Single vehicle: 12,001 to 40,000	Any	~~$4.67~~ $5.60
Single vehicle: 40,000 or over	Any	~~$5.45~~ $6.54
Combination of vehicles	Any	~~$5.45~~ $6.54

D. Hourly Rates.

1. Rates in this subsection shall apply for the use of a wrecker vehicle and shall include services of the operator of such wrecker, except as provided in paragraph 4 of this subsection. Rates shall apply for all wrecker or towing services performed that are not otherwise provided for in this section, including, but not limited to, waiting and standby time, but shall not include the first fifteen (15) minutes of service following the hookup of a vehicle when a hookup fee is assessed, as provided in subsection E of this section.

Hourly rates shall apply from the time the vehicle or labor is assigned to the service call until the time it is released from service either upon return to the premises of the wrecker or towing service or upon being assigned to perform another wrecker or towing service, whichever occurs first. Whenever a wrecker vehicle is used to tow a vehicle subject to distance rates, as provided in subsection C of this section, hourly rates shall apply only for the time such wrecker is used in the performance of services other than transportation, except when such hourly rates are used in lieu of such distance rates.

As used in this subsection, rates stated per hour apply for whole hours and, for fractions of an hour, rates stated per fifteen (15) minutes apply for each fifteen (15) minutes or fraction thereof over seven and one-half (7 1/2) minutes. However, if the service subject to an hourly rate is performed in less than two (2) hours, the charge applicable for two (2) hours may be assessed, except as provided for in subsection C of this section.

2. Maximum hourly rates for wrecker or towing services performed for passenger vehicles, when rates for such services are not otherwise provided for by law, shall be as follows:

Weight of Towed Passenger Vehicle (In pounds)	Rate Per Hour	Rate Per 15 Minutes
Single vehicle: 8,000 or less	~~$38.94~~	~~$9.74~~
	$46.73	$11.69
Single vehicle: 8,001 to 24,000	~~$54.52~~	~~$13.63~~
	$65.42	$16.36

Single vehicle: 24,001 to 44,000	~~$77.88~~	~~$19.47~~
	$93.46	$23.36
Single vehicle: 44,001 or over	~~$116.82~~	~~$29.21~~
	$140.18	$35.05
Combination of vehicles		~~$116.82~~
~~$29.21~~		
	$140.18	$35.05

3. Maximum hourly rates for all other wrecker or towing services, when rates for such other services are not otherwise provided for by law, shall be determined based upon the gross vehicle weight rating of each wrecker vehicle used as follows:

GVWR of Wrecker Vehicle	Rate Per	Rate Per
(In pounds)	Hour	15 Minutes
8,000 or less	~~$38.94~~	~~$9.74~~
	$46.73	$11.69
8,001 to 24,000	~~$54.52~~	~~$13.63~~
	$65.42	$16.36
24,001 to 44,000	~~$77.88~~	~~$19.47~~
	$93.46	$23.36
44,001 or over	~~$116.82~~	~~$29.21~~
	$140.18	$35.05
Combination wrecker vehicle with GVWR of 24,000 or over	~~$116.82~~	~~$29.21~~
	$140.18	$35.05

4. a. Maximum hourly rates for extra labor shall be Fourteen Dollars and twenty-eight cents ($14.28) per person per hour.

b. Maximum hourly rates for skilled or specialized labor and/or equipment shall be the actual customary and ordinary rates charged for such labor and/or equipment.

E. Hookup Rates.

1. Rates in this subsection shall apply to the hookup of a vehicle to a wrecker vehicle when such hookup is performed in connection with a wrecker or towing service described in this

section. Such hookup rate shall include the first fifteen (15) minutes of such service, for which there shall be no additional fee charged, but shall not include the use of a dolly or rollback equipment or a combination wrecker vehicle to accomplish such hookup, for which an additional fee may be charged as provided in subsection F of this section. Hookup shall include, but not be limited to, the attachment of a vehicle to or the loading of a vehicle onto a wrecker vehicle.

2. As used in this subsection:

a. "day rate" shall mean the rate charged for a hookup performed by an operator between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, but shall not include any national holiday,

b. "night rate" shall mean the rate charged for a hookup performed by an operator between the hours of 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. of the following day, Monday through Friday, or any time on Saturday, Sunday or a national holiday, and

c. "national holiday" shall mean New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day, and shall further include the Friday before such national holiday which falls on a Saturday and the Monday following such national holiday which falls on a Sunday.

3. Maximum hookup rates shall be as follows:

Weight of Vehicle Being Hooked Up (In pounds, including equipment and lading)	Day Rate	Night Rate
Single vehicle: 8,000 or less	~~$23.36~~	~~$31.15~~
	$28.03	$37.38
Single vehicle: 8,001 to 12,000	~~$31.15~~	~~$38.94~~
	$37.38	$46.73
Single vehicle: 12,001 to 24,000	~~$38.94~~	~~$46.73~~
	$46.73	$56.08

Single vehicle: 24,001 or over	~~$46.73~~	~~$54.52~~
	$56.08	$65.42
Combination of vehicles	~~$46.73~~	~~$54.52~~
	$56.08	$65.42

F. Additional Service Rates.

1. Rates in this subsection shall apply to the performance of the following services:

a. the disconnection and reconnection of a towed vehicle's drive line when necessary to prevent mechanical damage to such vehicle,

b. the removal and replacement of a towed vehicle's axle when necessary to prevent mechanical damage to such vehicle, or

c. the use of a dolly or rollback equipment when essential to prevent mechanical damage to a towed vehicle or when neither end of such vehicle is capable of being towed safely while in contact with the roadway.

2. Maximum additional service rates shall be as follows:

Weight of Towed Vehicle (In pounds, including equipment and lading)	Service Performed		
	Disconnect Drive Line; Remove Axle	Reconnect Drive Line; Replace Axle	Use of Dolly or Rollback Equipment
	Rate Per Service Performed		
8,000 or less	$6.88	$8.25	$20.90
8,001 to 12,000	$11.00	$14.30	$23.90
	Rate Per 15 Minutes of Service Performed		
12,001 or over	$13.75	$13.75	Not applicable

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 953.2 of Title 47, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The rates and provisions of this section shall apply to determine the maximum fees and charges for the storage and after-hours release of towed vehicles, including incorporated and unincorporated areas, by a wrecker or towing service licensed by the Department of Public Safety. No wrecker or towing service

shall charge any fee which exceeds the maximum rates established in this section. Such rates shall be in addition to any other rates, fees or charges authorized or required by law.

B. 1. Storage or after-hours release of a towed vehicle, or both, provided by a wrecker or towing service shall be recorded by the operator on a bill or invoice as prescribed by rules of the Department.

2. Nothing herein shall limit the right of an operator who has provided or caused to be provided storage or after-hours release of a towed vehicle, or both, to require prepayment, in part or in full, or guarantee of payment of any charges incurred for providing such services.

3. This section shall not be construed to require an operator to charge a fee for the storage or after-hours release, or both, of any towed vehicle.

4. The operator is authorized to collect all lawful fees from the owner, lienholder or agent of the towed vehicle for the performance of any and all such services.

C. Outdoor Storage Rates.

1. Rates in this subsection shall apply to the outdoor storage of a towed vehicle. Rates may be applied from the time the towed vehicle is brought onto the outdoor storage facility premises. Rates shall apply to each complete twenty-four-hour period of outdoor storage; provided, the maximum twenty-four-hour fee, as provided for in this section, may be charged for any towed vehicle which is stored for a portion of a twenty-four-hour period.

2. Maximum outdoor storage rates shall be as follows:

Type of Towed Vehicle	Rate per Each 24-hour Period or Portion Thereof
Single vehicle: motorcycle, automobile, or light truck up to 20 feet in length	$10.00
Single vehicle or combination of vehicles over 20 feet in length but less than 30 feet in length	$15.00

Single vehicle or combination of vehicles over 30 feet in length and up to 8 feet in width	$20.00
Single vehicle or combination of vehicles over 30 feet in length and over 8 feet in width	$30.00

D. Indoor Storage Rates:

1. Rates in this subsection shall apply to the indoor storage of a towed vehicle. Rates may be applied from the time the towed vehicle is brought into the indoor storage facility premises. Rates shall apply to each complete twenty-four-hour period of indoor storage; provided, the maximum twenty-four-hour fee, as provided for in this section, may be charged for any towed vehicle which is stored for a portion of a twenty-four-hour period.

2. Maximum indoor storage rates shall be as follows:

Type of Towed Vehicle	Rate per Each 24-hour Period or Portion Thereof
Single vehicle: motorcycle, automobile, or light truck up to 20 feet in length	$20.00
Single vehicle or combination of vehicles over 20 feet in length but less than 30 feet in length	$25.00
Single vehicle or combination of vehicles over 30 feet in length and up to 8 feet in width	$30.00
Single vehicle or combination of vehicles over 30 feet in length and over 8 feet in width	$40.00

E. After-Hours Release Rate.

1. The rate in this subsection shall apply to the release of a towed vehicle to the owner, lienholder, or agent when such release occurs at a time other than normal business hours.

2. As used in this subsection:

a. "after-hours release rate" shall mean the rate charged for the release of a towed vehicle between the hours of midnight and 8:00 a.m., or between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and midnight Monday through Friday, or any time on Saturday, Sunday or a national holiday, and

b. "national holiday" shall mean New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day, and shall further include the Friday before such national holiday which falls on a Saturday and the Monday following such national holiday which falls on a Sunday.

3. The maximum after-hours release rate shall be Five Dollars ($5.00) for the release of any single vehicle or combination of vehicles.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 1991, Section 1105, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 208, O.S.L. 1995 (47 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 1105), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1105. A. As used in the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act, Section 1101 et seq. of this title:

1. "Salvage vehicle" means any vehicle which is within the last ten (10) model years and which has been damaged by collision or other occurrence to the extent that the cost of repairing the vehicle for safe operation on the highway exceeds sixty percent (60%) of its fair market value, as defined by Section 1111 of this title, immediately prior to the damage. For purposes of this section, actual repair costs shall only include labor and parts for actual damage to the suspension, motor, transmission, frame or unibody and designated structural components;

2. "Rebuilt vehicle" means any salvage vehicle which has been rebuilt and inspected for the purpose of registration and title;

3. "Flood-damaged vehicle" means a salvage or rebuilt vehicle which was damaged by flooding or a vehicle which was submerged at a level to or above the dashboard of the vehicle and on which an amount of loss was paid by the insurer;

4. "Recovered-theft vehicle" means a salvage or rebuilt vehicle which was recovered from a theft; and

5. "Junked vehicle" means any vehicle which is incapable of operation or use on the highway, has no resale value except as a

source of parts or scrap and has an eighty percent (80%) loss in fair market value.

B. The owner of every vehicle in this state shall possess a certificate of title as proof of ownership of such vehicle, except those vehicles registered pursuant to Section 1120 of this title and trailers registered pursuant to Section 1133 of this title, previously titled in another state and engaged in interstate commerce, and except as provided in subsection M of this section. There shall be five (5) types of certificates of title:

1. Original title for any motor vehicle which is not a salvage, rebuilt or junked vehicle;

2. Salvage title for any motor vehicle which is a salvage vehicle or is specified as a salvage vehicle or the equivalent thereof on a certificate of title from another state;

3. Rebuilt title for any motor vehicle which is a rebuilt vehicle;

4. Junked title for any motor vehicle which is a junked vehicle or is specified as a junked vehicle or the equivalent thereof on a certificate of title from another state; and

5. Classic title for any motor vehicle, except a junked vehicle, which is twenty-five (25) model years or older.

Application for a certificate of title, whether the initial certificate of title or a duplicate, may be made to the Oklahoma Tax Commission or any motor license agent. When application is made with a motor license agent, the application information shall be transmitted either electronically or by mail to the Commission by the motor license agent. If the application information is transmitted electronically, the motor license agent shall forward the required application along with evidence of ownership, where required, by mail. Where the transmission of application information cannot be performed electronically, the Commission is authorized to provide postage paid envelopes to motor license agents for the purpose of mailing the application along with evidence of ownership, where required. The Commission shall upon receipt of proper application information issue an Oklahoma certificate of title. The certificates may be mailed to the

applicant. Upon issuance of a certificate of title, the Commission shall provide the appropriate motor license agent with confirmation of such issuance.

C. 1. The application for certificate of title shall be upon a blank form furnished by the Commission, containing:

a. a full description of the vehicle,

b. the manufacturer's serial or other identification number,

c. the manufacturer's factory delivered price and total delivered price,

d. the motor number and the date on which first sold by the manufacturer or dealer to the owner,

e. any distinguishing marks,

f. a statement of the applicant's source of title,

g. any security interest upon the vehicle, and

h. such other information as the Commission may require.

2. The application for a certificate of title for a vehicle which is within the last seven (7) model years shall require a declaration as to whether the vehicle has been damaged by collision or other occurrence and whether the vehicle has been recovered from theft and the extent of the damage to the vehicle. The declaration shall be made by the owner of a vehicle if:

a. the vehicle has been damaged or stolen ~~and~~,

b. the owner did or did not receive any payment for the loss from an insurer, or

~~b.~~ c. the vehicle is titled or registered in a state that does not classify the vehicle or brand the title because of damage to or loss of the vehicle similar to the classifications or brands utilized by this state.

The declaration shall be based upon the best information and knowledge of the owner and shall be in addition to the requirements specified in paragraph 1 of this subsection. The Oklahoma Tax Commission shall not issue a certificate of title for a vehicle which is subject to the provisions of this paragraph

without the required declaration, completed and signed by the owner of the vehicle. Upon receipt of an application without the properly completed declaration, the Oklahoma Tax Commission shall return the application to the applicant with notice that the title may not be issued without the required declaration. Nothing in this paragraph shall prohibit the Oklahoma Tax Commission from recognizing the type of or brand on a title or other ownership document issued by another state or the inspection conducted in another state and issuing the appropriate certificate of title for the vehicle.

3. The certificate of title shall have the following security features:

a. intaglio printing or security thread, with or without watermark,

b. latent images,

c. fluorescent inks,

d. micro print,

e. void background, and

f. color coding.

4. Each title issued pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act shall be color coded as determined by the Oklahoma Tax Commission.

5. The certificate of title shall be of such size and design and color as the Commission may direct pursuant to the provisions of this section. The title shall be on colored paper or other material as designated by the Commission and be of such intensity or hue as will allow easy identification as to whether the title is an original title, a salvage title, a rebuilt title or a junked title. The type of title shall be identified on the front of the certificate of title. The original title, rebuilt title or classic title shall be identified by the word "Original", "Rebuilt" or "Classic" printed in the upper right quadrant of the certificate of title, in the space which is currently captioned "type of title".

D. 1. To obtain an original certificate of title for a vehicle that is being registered for the first time in this state

which has not been previously registered in any other state, the applicant shall be required to deliver, as evidence of ownership, a manufacturer's certificate of origin properly assigned by the manufacturer, distributor, or dealer licensed in this or any other state shown thereon to be the last transferee to the applicant upon a form to be prescribed and approved by the Commission. A manufacturer's certificate of origin shall contain:

a. the manufacturer's serial or other identification number,

b. date on which first sold by the manufacturer to the dealer,

c. any distinguishing marks including model and the year same was made,

d. a statement of any security interests upon said vehicle, and

e. such other information as the Commission may require.

2. The manufacturer's certificate of origin shall have the following security features:

a. intaglio printing or security thread, with or without watermark,

b. latent images,

c. fluorescent inks,

d. micro print, and

e. void background.

E. In the absence of a dealer's or manufacturer's number, the Commission may assign such identifying number to the vehicle, which shall be permanently stamped, burned or pressed or attached into the vehicle, and a certificate of title shall be delivered to the applicant upon payment of all fees and taxes, and the remaining copies shall be permanently filed and indexed by the Commission. The Commission shall assign an identifying number to any rebuilt vehicle if the vehicle identification number displayed on the rebuilt vehicle does not accurately describe the vehicle as rebuilt. The motor license agent, at the time of inspection of the rebuilt vehicle pursuant to Section 1111 of this title, shall

identify the make, model, and year for the body to accurately describe the rebuilt vehicle. At the time of the inspection, an appropriate identifying number shall be permanently stamped, burned, pressed, or attached on the rebuilt vehicle. The assigned identifying number shall be recorded on the certificate of title for the rebuilt vehicle. The dealer's or manufacturer's vehicle identification number on the rebuilt vehicle shall be preserved in the computer files of the Oklahoma Tax Commission for at least five (5) years.

F. When registering for the first time in this state a vehicle which was not originally manufactured for sale in the United States, to obtain a certificate of title, the Commission shall require the applicant to deliver:

1. As evidence of ownership, if the vehicle has not previously been titled in the United States, the documents constituting valid proof of ownership in the country in which the vehicle was originally purchased, together with a notarized translation of any such documents; and

2. As evidence of compliance with federal law, copies of the bond release letters for the vehicle issued by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Department of Transportation, together with a receipt issued by the Internal Revenue Service indicating that the applicable federal gas guzzler tax has been paid.

The Oklahoma Tax Commission shall not issue a certificate of title for a vehicle which is subject to the provisions of this paragraph without the required documentation from agencies of the United States and evidence of ownership. Upon receipt of an application without the required documentation, the Oklahoma Tax Commission shall return the application to the applicant with notice that the certificate of title may not be issued without the required documentation. Nothing in this paragraph shall prohibit the Oklahoma Tax Commission from issuing certificates of title for antique or classic vehicles not driven upon the public streets, roads, or highways.

G. When registering in this state a vehicle which was titled in another state and which title contains the name of a secured party on the face of the other state certificate of title, or such state certificate is being held by the secured party in that state or any other state, the Commission or the motor license agent shall complete a lien entry form as prescribed by the Commission. The owner of such vehicle shall file an affidavit with the Commission or the motor license agent stating that title to the vehicle is being held by a secured party has not been issued pursuant to the laws of the state where titled, and that there is an existing lien or encumbrance on the vehicle. The current name and address of the secured party or lienholder shall also be stated in the affidavit. The form of the affidavit shall be prescribed by the Oklahoma Tax Commission and contain any other information deemed necessary by the Commission. A statement of the lien or encumbrance shall be included on the Oklahoma certificate of title and the lien or encumbrance shall be deemed continuously perfected as though it had been perfected pursuant to Section 1110 of this title. For completing the lien entry form and recording the security interest on the certificate of title, the Commission or the motor license agent shall collect a fee of Three Dollars ($3.00) which shall be in addition to other fees provided by the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act. The fee, if collected by the motor license agent pursuant to this subsection, shall be retained by the motor license agent.

H. The charge for each certificate of title issued, except for junked titles as defined in paragraph 4 of subsection B of this section, shall be Eleven Dollars ($11.00), which charge shall be in addition to any other fees or taxes imposed by law for such vehicle. One Dollar ($1.00) of each such charge shall be deposited in the Oklahoma Tax Commission Reimbursement Fund. However, the charge shall not apply to any vehicle which is to be registered in this state pursuant to the provisions of Section 1120 or 1133 of this title and which was registered in another state at least sixty (60) days prior to the time it is required to be registered in this state.

I. The vehicle identification number of a junked vehicle shall be preserved in the computer files of the Oklahoma Tax Commission for a period of not less than five (5) years. The charge of junked titles as defined in paragraph 4 of subsection B of this section shall be Four Dollars ($4.00). The fee remitted to the Oklahoma Tax Commission shall be deposited in the Oklahoma Tax Commission Reimbursement Fund.

J. If a vehicle is sold to a resident of another state, destroyed, dismantled, or ceases to be used as a vehicle, the owner shall immediately notify the Commission. Absent evidence to the contrary, failure to notify the Commission shall be prima facie evidence that the vehicle has been in continuous operation in this state.

K. If a vehicle is stolen, the owner shall immediately notify the appropriate law enforcement agency. Immediately after receiving such notification, the law enforcement agency shall notify the Oklahoma Tax Commission.

L. No title for an out-of-state vehicle, except any commercial truck or truck-tractor registered pursuant to Section 1120 of this title which is engaged in interstate commerce or any trailer or semitrailer registered pursuant to Section 1133 of this title which is engaged in interstate commerce, shall be issued without an inspection of such vehicle and payment of a fee of Four Dollars ($4.00) for such inspection; provided, the Oklahoma Tax Commission may enter into reciprocal agreements with other states for such inspections to be performed at locations outside the boundaries of this state for vehicles which:

1. Are offered for sale at auction;

2. Have been solely used as vehicles for rent under the ownership of a licensed motor vehicle dealer or a person engaged in the business of renting motor vehicles; or

3. Have not been registered in this or any other state for more than one (1) year.

The inspection shall include a comparison of the vehicle identification number on the vehicle with the number recorded on the ownership records and the recording of the actual odometer

reading on the vehicle. The Four Dollar ($4.00) fee shall be collected by the motor license agent or Commission when the title is issued. The motor license agent shall retain Two Dollars ($2.00) for his fee. The remaining Two Dollars ($2.00) shall be deposited in the Oklahoma Tax Commission Reimbursement Fund.

The Oklahoma Tax Commission may allow the inspection to be performed at a location out-of-state by another state's department of motor vehicles or state police.

M. No title for any out-of-state vehicle offered for sale at salvage pools, salvage disposal sales, or an auction, or by a dealer or a licensed automotive dismantler and parts recycler, shall be issued without an inspection to compare the vehicle identification number on the vehicle with the number recorded on the ownership record and to record the actual odometer reading on the vehicle. Upon request of the seller, person or entity conducting an auction, dealer or licensed dismantler, the inspection shall be conducted at the location or place of business of the sale, auction, dealer, or the dismantler. The inspection shall be conducted by any motor license agent or a duly authorized employee thereof; provided, the Oklahoma Tax Commission may enter into reciprocal agreements with other states for such inspections to be performed at locations outside the boundaries of this state for vehicles which:

1. Are offered for sale at auction;

2. Have been solely used as vehicles for rent under the ownership of a licensed motor vehicle dealer or a person engaged in the business of renting motor vehicles; or

3. Have not been registered in this or any other state for more than one (1) year.

The inspection shall be certified upon forms prescribed by the Oklahoma Tax Commission. The name and other identification of the authorized person conducting the inspection shall be legibly printed or typed on the form. Prior to any inspection by any employee of a motor license agent, the motor license agent shall notify the Oklahoma Tax Commission of the name and any other identification information requested by the Oklahoma Tax

Commission of the authorized person. A signature specimen of the authorized person shall be submitted to the Oklahoma Tax Commission by the employing motor license agent. If the authorization to inspect vehicles is withdrawn or the employer-employee relationship is terminated, the motor license agent, immediately, shall notify the Commission and return any remaining inspection forms to the Oklahoma Tax Commission. The fee for the inspection shall be Four Dollars ($4.00). The motor license agent shall retain Three Dollars ($3.00) of the fee. Fees received by a motor license agent or an authorized employee thereof shall be handled and accounted for in the manner as prescribed by law for any other fees paid to or received by a motor license agent. Out-of-state vehicles brought into this state by a person licensed in another state to sell new or used vehicles to be sold within this state at a motor vehicle auction which is limited to dealer to dealer transactions shall not be required to be inspected, unless said vehicle is purchased by an Oklahoma dealer. Any person licensed in another state to sell new or used motor vehicles, who offers a motor vehicle for sale within this state at a motor vehicle auction which is limited to dealer to dealer transactions, shall not be within the definition of "owner" in Section 1102 of this title, for purposes of Section 1101 et seq. of this title.

N. An out-of-state vehicle which has been rebuilt shall be inspected pursuant to the provisions of Section 1111 of this title. The Commission shall train motor license agents in interpreting vehicle identification numbers to assure that it accurately describes the vehicle and to detect rollback or alteration of the odometer. Failure of a motor license agent to inspect the vehicle and make the required notations shall be a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars ($1,000.00) for the first offense and Five Thousand Dollars ($5,000.00) for the second offense or subsequent offense, or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than six (6) months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

O. The ownership of any vehicle which has been declared a total loss because of theft shall be transferred to the insurer by a salvage title. Upon recovery of the vehicle from theft, the ownership shall be transferred by an original title, salvage title, or junked title, as may be appropriate based upon an estimate of the amount of loss submitted by the insurer.

P. The owner of any vehicle which is incapable of operation or use on the public roads and has no resale value, except as parts, scrap or junk, may deliver the certificate of title to the vehicle to the Oklahoma Tax Commission for cancellation. Upon verification that any perfected lien against the vehicle has been released, the certificate of title shall be canceled without any fee, charge, or cost required from the owner. The vehicle identification numbers on the certificates of title shall be preserved in the computer files of the Oklahoma Tax Commission for at least five (5) years from the date of cancellation of the certificate of title. The Oklahoma Tax Commission shall prescribe and provide an affidavit form to be completed by the owner of any vehicle for which the certificate of title is canceled. No title or registration shall subsequently be issued for a vehicle for which the certificate of title has been surrendered pursuant to this subsection. The Oklahoma Tax Commission shall prescribe a form for the transfer of ownership of a vehicle for which the certificate of title has been canceled.

Q. The owner of a vehicle which is not within the last ten (10) model years, not roadworthy and not capable of repair for operation or use on the roads and highways shall transfer the vehicle only upon a certificate of ownership prescribed by the Oklahoma Tax Commission, if the certificate of title to the vehicle is lost, has been canceled, or otherwise not available. The prescribed ownership form shall include the names and addresses of the buyer and seller, the driver's license number or social security number of the seller, the make and model of the vehicle, and the public vehicle identification number. If there is no public vehicle identification number, the vehicle shall be inspected by a law enforcement officer to verify the absence of

the number on the vehicle and the prescribed ownership form shall include a signed statement, by such officer, verifying the absence of the number.

The certificate of ownership shall be completed in triplicate. The buyer and seller shall each retain a copy. Within thirty (30) days of the transaction, the seller shall submit one copy to the Oklahoma Tax Commission or a motor license agent accompanied with a fee of Four Dollars ($4.00). One Dollar ($1.00) shall be retained by the motor license agent and Three Dollars ($3.00) shall be deposited in the Tax Commission Reimbursement Fund in the State Treasury.

Upon receipt of the certificate, the Oklahoma Tax Commission shall verify that any perfected lien upon the vehicle has been released. If the lien is not released, the Commission shall mail notice of the transfer to the lienholder at the lienholder's last-known address. If a certificate of title has been issued, it shall be canceled and the vehicle identification number shall be preserved in the computer of the Oklahoma Tax Commission for at least five (5) years. The buyer of the vehicle may not be sued and shall not be liable for monetary damages to the lienholder, however, the vehicle shall be subject to a valid repossession by a lienholder.

R. The Oklahoma Tax Commission shall notify the chief administrative officer of the agency or department responsible for issuing motor vehicle certificates of title in each state in the United States of the types of motor vehicle certificate of title effective in Oklahoma on and after January 1, 1989.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 1998.

46-2-11441 LAC