



March 8, 2021

Good morning Chairmen Lemar and Cassano, Ranking Members Carney and Somers and distinguished members of the Transportation Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Senate Bill 982 - An Act Revising Motor Vehicle Statutes.

Insurance Auto Auctions (“IAA”) is a salvage auction whose primary business is handling the sale of total loss vehicles for the insurance industry. IAA has 175 auction sites throughout North America, two of which are in the state of Connecticut. IAA supports Senate Bill 982, which among other changes, would remove the notarization requirement for a Power of Attorney (“POA”) related to insurance total loss claims for a motor vehicle and would allow the POA to be signed electronically in certain circumstances.

Currently, a POA from an insured to an insurer in connection with a total loss settlement transferring ownership of a motor vehicle to the insurer requires notarization and witnessing. The witness and notary requirements impose unnecessary burdens, costs and delays on the total loss settlement process.

Removing these burdensome requirements and allowing an electronic signature on a POA would speed payment of the claim to the vehicle owner who just lost the use of his car and needs to purchase another. It also allows for quicker settlement during catastrophic events when consumers may be displaced.

For insurers, electronic signature would allow for a more expeditious disposition of the salvage vehicles. Insurers may then close their files more quickly, improving the efficiency of the claim settlement process, and, through receipt of vehicle sales proceeds, more quickly recover a portion of the settlement paid.

For salvage auctions, electronic signature would shorten the storage duration of vehicles, freeing up space in expensive facilities.

This bill would also allow an insurance company to obtain a certificate of title, salvage title or salvage parts only title when the insurance company has paid a total loss claim and acquired ownership of the vehicle, but the vehicle owner or lienholder did not provide the certificate of title to the insurance company.

IAA would like to thank the Department of Motor Vehicles for working with the industry to address this issue and would urge the committee to please support Senate Bill 982.

Thank you.



/s/ Katerina Dotzeva

Katerina Dotzeva
IAA, Inc. - Director of Government Affairs