

**SENATE FLOOR AMENDMENTS**

2026 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by Senator Hodges to Engrossed Senate Bill No. 72 by Senator Hodges

1 AMENDMENT NO. 1

2 On page 1, at the beginning of line 2 after "To" delete the remainder of the line and insert:

3 "amend and reenact R.S. 32:707.2(A), (C)(1) and (2), and (D), to enact R.S.  
4 32:702(18), 705(B)(6) and (7), 707.2(I) and (J), 707.2.1, 707.2.2, and 714, and to  
5 repeal R.S. 32:707.2(G), relative to the office of motor vehicles; to"

6 AMENDMENT NO. 2

7 On page 1, line 4, after "signatures;" insert:

8 "to provide for system requirements for electronic lien, titling, and recordation of  
9 motor vehicles; to provide for the duties of the office of motor vehicles; to provide  
10 for the use of electronic signatures; to provide for civil immunity; to provide for  
11 effectiveness; to provide for severability; to direct the Louisiana State Law Institute  
12 to alphabetize and renumber definitions;"

13 AMENDMENT NO. 3

14 On page 1, line 6, after "Section 1." delete the remainder of the line and insert:

15 "R.S. 32:707.2(A), (C)(1) and (2), and (D) are hereby amended and reenacted and  
16 R.S. 32:702(18), 705(B)(6) and (7), 707.2(I) and (J), 707.2.1, 707.2.2, and 714 are hereby  
17 enacted to read as follows:"

18 AMENDMENT NO. 4

19 On page 1, between lines 6 and 7, insert:

20 "§702. Definitions

21 As used in this Chapter:

22 \* \* \*

23 **(18) "Certificate of title" means the record that is evidence of ownership**  
24 **of a motor vehicle, whether paper or electronic, issued by the department.**

25 \* \* \*

26 §705. Acceptance and delivery of certificate

27 \* \* \*

28 B. For purposes of this Section, an "endorsement" means one of the  
29 following:

30 \* \* \*

31 **(6) The electronic signature of the seller affixed to an electronic record**  
32 **of assignment or transfer of title in a manner authorized by the department,**  
33 **consistent with the provisions of the Uniform Electronic Transaction Act, R.S.**  
34 **9:2601 et seq. The electronic signatures shall comply with the Authentication**  
35 **Assurance Level 2 (AAL2) security standard as defined in the National Institute**  
36 **of Standards and Technology Special Publication 800-63-3.**

37 **(7) An electronic signature of the seller affixed through an electronic**  
38 **titling system or other electronic process approved by the department, which**  
39 **shall have the same force and effect as a handwritten signature and**  
40 **endorsement executed pursuant to Paragraph (1) or (2) of this Subsection.**

41 \* \* \*

42 §707.2. Electronic media system for lien recordation and title information; fees;  
43 required bond; confidentiality of information; rules and regulations

1 A.(1) The department shall develop and implement on a statewide basis ~~no~~  
 2 ~~later than January 1, 2010,~~ a computer system which will permit the electronic  
 3 recording of information concerning the perfection and release of vehicle security  
 4 interests without submitting or receiving paper title documents, **including electronic**  
 5 **lien, electronic titling, and electronic registration**. The department ~~may~~ shall  
 6 allow the submission of vehicle title information for new, transferred, and corrected  
 7 certificates of title, including the perfection and release of security interests, through  
 8 electronic ~~media~~ **means** in a cost-effective manner ~~in lieu of the submission and~~  
 9 ~~maintenance of paper documents otherwise required by this Chapter.~~ **The system**  
 10 **shall enable the ability to transact, process, record, and transmit certificates of**  
 11 **title through a completely electronic process for:**

12 (a) **All business entities and their service providers applying for**  
 13 **automotive titles and registrations, for itself or the customers.**

14 (b) **Electronic submission of liens and lien satisfactions by financial**  
 15 **institutions and its service providers pursuant to R.S. 32:708.**

16 (2) **The electronic lien, electronic titling, and electronic registration**  
 17 **system shall provide that any lien or security pursuant to R.S. 32:708 shall be**  
 18 **electronically transmitted to the department based on the following:**

19 (a) **If there are one or more liens or encumbrances on the motor vehicle,**  
 20 **the department shall electronically transmit the lien to the first lienholder and**  
 21 **notify the first lienholder of any additional liens, provided that a motor vehicle**  
 22 **lien is noted on the face of the certificate of title and notwithstanding any other**  
 23 **requirements in this Chapter.**

24 (i) **Subsequent lien satisfactions shall be electronically transmitted to the**  
 25 **department and shall include the name and address of the person satisfying the**  
 26 **lien.**

27 (ii) **A certificate of title shall not be issued until the last lien is satisfied**  
 28 **and there is a clear certificate of title that can be issued to the owner of the**  
 29 **vehicle. The department is not obligated to print a paper title until the final lien**  
 30 **is satisfied, except where specifically requested by a dealer or financial**  
 31 **institution to fulfill its business requirements. A paper certificate of title shall**  
 32 **be issued only upon request of the vehicle owner or lienholder and upon**  
 33 **payment of any applicable fees established by the department.**

34 (b)(i) **Vehicles subject to an electronic lien shall have the certificate of**  
 35 **title for the vehicle considered to be physically held by the lienholder for the**  
 36 **purpose of compliance with state and federal odometer disclosure requirements.**

37 (ii) **A duly certified copy of the office of motor vehicle's electronic record**  
 38 **of the lien shall be admissible in any civil, criminal, or administrative**  
 39 **proceeding in this state as evidence of the existence of a lien.**

40 \* \* \*

41 C.(1) An approved public license tag agent operating a secured host  
 42 computer system interfacing with the computer system of the Department of Public  
 43 Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, and the computer system of a  
 44 lending institution or other sales finance company shall be bonded in an amount  
 45 specified by the department. The public license tag agent is hereby authorized to  
 46 charge a fee to customers utilizing this electronic ~~media~~ system.

47 (2) Each federally insured depository institution that originates more than  
 48 ~~two hundred fifty~~ **twenty-five** motor vehicle transactions per year, and each finance  
 49 company, lending institution, or other lender shall designate a public tag agent with  
 50 which such bank, finance company, lending institution, or other lender shall interface  
 51 its computer system for the purpose of receiving electronic confirmation from the  
 52 department, of the receipt and the filing of the security interest on the subject motor  
 53 vehicle. Each federally insured depository institution that originates more than ~~two~~  
 54 ~~hundred fifty~~ **twenty-five** motor vehicle transactions per year, and each finance  
 55 company, lending institution, or other lender shall also designate such public tag  
 56 agent when transmitting a release or satisfaction of its lien.

57 \* \* \*

58 D. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, a written or printed report  
 59 of an electronic ~~media~~ transaction or recording required under the provisions of this  
 60 Section, if certified as true and correct by the department, shall serve as evidence of  
 61 any signature, acknowledgment, or information which was provided to or by the

1 department through electronic means, and the certification shall be admissible in any  
 2 legal proceeding as evidence of the facts stated therein.

3 \* \* \*

4 **I. Lienholders shall process electronic lien releases within two business**  
 5 **days from the date the funds are deemed collected and shall maintain real-time**  
 6 **accuracy of status information.**

7 **J. Beginning twelve months after the effective date on which the office**  
 8 **of motor vehicles certifies that the electronic lien, electronic titling, and**  
 9 **electronic registration functionality is available for use by all licensed motor**  
 10 **vehicle dealers statewide, each motor vehicle dealer licensed pursuant to R.S.**  
 11 **32:1251 et seq., shall submit all applications for certificates of title, registration,**  
 12 **and other ownership transfer documents through the electronic lien, electronic**  
 13 **titling, and electronic registration system, except contrary to any other**  
 14 **provision of law or provided by rule of the department.**

15 **§707.2.1. Electronic signatures and records for motor vehicle transactions**

16 **A. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any document,**  
 17 **record, or instrument required in connection with the sale, lease, transfer,**  
 18 **titling, registration, or financing of a motor vehicle, unless otherwise exempted**  
 19 **by this Section shall be created, executed, transmitted, and stored electronically,**  
 20 **including but not limited to the following:**

- 21 **(1) Titling documents.**
- 22 **(2) Registration applications.**
- 23 **(3) Odometer disclosures.**
- 24 **(4) Secure and limited powers of attorney.**
- 25 **(5) Electronic attestations.**

26 **B.(1) Any documents used to transfer ownership of a vehicle to an**  
 27 **insurance company after payment of damages may be signed electronically and**  
 28 **reproduced in paper form and shall not require notarization. The supporting**  
 29 **documents include but are not limited to the following:**

- 30 **(a) Limited powers of attorney.**
- 31 **(b) Applications for duplicate titles.**
- 32 **(c) Odometer disclosure forms.**

33 **(2) Electronic signatures shall comply with the Authentication**  
 34 **Assurance Level 2 (AAL2) security standard as defined in the National Institute**  
 35 **of Standards and Technology Special Publication 800-63-3.**

36 **C.(1) The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor**  
 37 **vehicles, shall accept electronic records and electronic signatures for the**  
 38 **documents and records identified in Subsection A of this Section and any**  
 39 **electronic signature or electronic record accepted by the department pursuant**  
 40 **to this Section shall have the same force and effect as an original written**  
 41 **document or handwritten signature and shall satisfy any legal requirement for**  
 42 **a written record or signature.**

43 **(2) The department shall promulgate rules and regulations in**  
 44 **accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act as may be necessary to**  
 45 **implement the provisions of this Section, including but not limited to rules**  
 46 **governing:**

- 47 **(a) Electronic signatures and authentication standards.**
- 48 **(b) Security and identity verification procedures.**

49 **D. An electronic signature that is authenticated in a manner approved**  
 50 **by the department shall satisfy any requirement for a written signature and**  
 51 **shall not require notarization.**

52 **E. An electronically signed, or a legibly scanned or imaged copy thereof,**  
 53 **shall have the same force and effect as an original paper document bearing a**  
 54 **handwritten signature and shall be admissible for all legal and evidentiary**  
 55 **purposes to the same extent as the original paper document.**

56 **F.(1) A dealer or authorized officer, as set forth in R.S. 32:702, using an**  
 57 **approved system in good faith and without actual knowledge of fraud or**  
 58 **unauthorized access, shall be immune from civil liability arising solely from the**  
 59 **use of electronic signatures, remote notarization of powers of attorney or**  
 60 **electronic records, including claims alleging improper execution, authentication,**  
 61 **or transmission, provided the dealer complied with the requirements of this**  
 62 **Section and any rules promulgated by the department.**

**(2) The immunity provided for in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection shall not apply to intentional misconduct or gross negligence.**

**§707.2.2. Secure digital motor vehicle titles**

**A. The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, shall implement a system that offers vehicle title holders a fully paperless, secure digital vehicle title that may be issued in lieu of a paper certificate of title.**

**B. Once implemented, the secure digital title system shall:**

**(1) Include all functions related to title reassignments.**

**(2) Meet or exceed applicable security requirements as set forth in regulations promulgated by the department.**

**(3) Provide title holders with online, real-time access to motor vehicle titles and status of titles in process.**

**C. A secure digital vehicle title produced under this Section shall be regarded as an official title from the state of Louisiana and fully recognized legally for any motor vehicle related transactions within the state and all other United States jurisdictions.**

**D. The secure digital title system shall permit the electronic transfer, reassignment, and recording of ownership of a motor vehicle. Ownership transfers executed through an approved electronic title system shall have the same legal effect as transfers executed through a paper certificate of title. Licensed motor vehicle dealers may complete title assignments, reassignments of ownership, and related documents through the electronic system without requiring issuance of a paper certificate of title.**

**E. A duly certified copy of the office of motor vehicle's secure digital title shall be admissible in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding in this state as evidence of the existence of the title.**

**F. The commissioner of the office of motor vehicles shall promulgate any rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this Section.**

\* \* \*

**AMENDMENT NO. 5**

On page 2, after line 3, insert:

"Section 2. R.S. 32:707.2(G) is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Section 3. The provisions of this Act establishing or requiring the use of electronic lien and title services, electronic registration and titling, secure digital motor vehicle titles, or other electronic titling and registration transactions shall not become effective until the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, certifies that a fully operational statewide electronic lien, electronic titling, and electronic registration system has been implemented.

Section 4. The provisions of R.S. 32:705(B)(6) and (7) and R.S. 32:707.2.1 shall become effective on January 1, 2028, or when the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, electronic vehicle and registration system is updated to comply with the statutory provisions contained in this Act, whichever occurs first. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to invalidate or limit any electronic record, electronic signature, or electronic transaction otherwise authorized by law or by policy of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, prior to the effective date of this Section.

Section 5. All other provisions shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

Section 6. If any provision of this Act, or the application thereof, is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items, or applications of the Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision, item, or application and to this end the provisions of this Act are hereby declared severable.

Section 7. The Louisiana State Law Institute is hereby authorized and directed to arrange in alphabetical order and renumber the definitions provided in R.S. 32:702."

