

SESSION OF 2022

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2594

As Amended by House Committee on
Transportation

Brief*

HB 2594, as amended, would create an exemption in law related to vehicle identification number (VIN) offenses for antique vehicles.

Except under certain circumstances, current law prohibits the destruction, removal, alteration, or defacing of a VIN when no part of the motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer has been stolen and a VIN has been assigned. Any law enforcement officer with knowledge of a vehicle having such a VIN is directed by law to seize and take possession of the motor vehicle or trailer, and that seized vehicle is classified as an article of contraband subject to destruction.

The bill would create an exception from the prohibition when a person removes and reinstalls a VIN or manufacturer's serial number on an antique vehicle if:

- The removal and reinstallation are necessary for the repair or restoration of the antique vehicle;
- The manufacturer's serial number or VIN is immediately reinstalled after the repair or restoration is complete; and
- The person does not know or has no reason to know that the antique vehicle is stolen.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

An antique vehicle is defined under continuing law as any vehicle more than 35 years old. The bill would also make technical changes.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Transportation at the request of Representative Delperdang.

House Committee on Transportation

In the House Committee hearing, Representative Delperdang provided **proponent** testimony, stating current law does not allow for the removal of VIN plates for any vehicle, and a vehicle with the VIN plate removed is considered contraband and therefore subject to forfeiture and destruction. The proponent further stated that restoring antique vehicles can require extensive repairs that frequently require access to areas of the vehicle that house the VIN plate.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by a representative of the Specialty Equipment Market Association.

A representative of the Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP) provided written-only **opponent** testimony, describing a current process to assist individuals needing to remove a VIN plate and requesting the bill require KHP inspection prior to removal of a VIN.

The House Committee amended the bill to require the reinstallation of any removed manufacturer's serial number or VIN immediately upon completion of the repair or restoration work.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill as introduced, the Department of Revenue indicates enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on state revenues or expenditures.

Vehicle identification numbers; antique vehicles; contraband