

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 885

BY REPRESENTATIVE MELERINE

MOTOR VEHICLES: Provides with respect to electronic titles and registration for motor vehicles

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 32:707.2 and to enact R.S. 32:705.2 and 726.2, relative to  
3 electronic lien, titling, and recordation of motor vehicles; to provide for system  
4 requirements for electronic lien, titling, and recordation of motor vehicles; to provide  
5 for the duties of the office of motor vehicles; to provide for the use of electronic  
6 signatures; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 32:707.2 is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 32:705.2 and  
9 726.2 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §705.2. Secure digital motor vehicle titles; electronic recordation; electronic  
11 signatures

12 A. The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor  
13 vehicles, may implement a system that offers vehicle title holders a fully paperless,  
14 secure digital vehicle title instead of the standard secure paper vehicle title.

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

16 (1) Include all functions related to title re-assignments.

17 (2) Meet or exceed applicable security requirements as set forth in  
18 regulations promulgated by the office of motor vehicles.

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



1           B. The electronic lien, electronic titling, and electronic registration system  
2           shall provide that any lien or security pursuant to R.S. 32:708 shall be electronically  
3           transmitted to the department based on the following:

4           (1) If there are one or more liens or encumbrances on the motor vehicle, the  
5           department shall electronically transmit the lien to the first lienholder and notify the  
6           first lienholder of any additional liens, provided that a motor vehicle lien is noted on  
7           its face of the certificate of the title and notwithstanding any other requirements in  
8           this Chapter.

9           (a) Subsequent lien satisfactions shall include the name and address of the  
10           person satisfying the lien.

11           (b) A certificate of title shall not be issued until the last lien is satisfied and  
12           a clear certificate of title is issued to the owner of the vehicle. The department is not  
13           obligated to print a paper title until the final lien is satisfied.

14           (2)(a) Vehicles subject to an electronic lien shall have the certificate of title  
15           for the vehicle considered to be physically held by the lienholder for the purpose of  
16           compliance with state and federal odometer disclosure requirements.

17           (b) A duly certified copy of the office of motor vehicle's electronic record  
18           of the lien shall be admissible in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding in  
19           this state as evidence of an existence of a lien.

20           ~~B. C.~~(1) The department is hereby authorized to contract with public license  
21 tag agents for the purpose of administering a system which will provide for the  
22 recording of vehicle title information and security interest notification without  
23 issuance of a paper title.

24           (2) The department is hereby authorized to promulgate rules and regulations  
25 in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, to provide for certain limited  
26 exceptions to the electronic recordation requirements set forth by this Section, for  
27 individuals and lienholders that are not normally engaged in the business or practice  
28 of financing vehicles.

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

7           (2) Each federally insured depository institution that originates more than  
8 two hundred fifty motor vehicle transactions per year, and each finance company,  
9 lending institution, or other lender shall designate a public tag agent with which such  
10 bank, finance company, lending institution, or other lender shall interface its  
11 computer system for the purpose of receiving electronic confirmation from the  
12 department, of the receipt and the filing of the security interest on the subject motor  
13 vehicle. Each federally insured depository institution that originates more than two  
14 hundred fifty motor vehicle transactions per year, and each finance company, lending  
15 institution, or other lender shall also designate such public tag agent when  
16 transmitting a release or satisfaction of its lien.

17           (3) Any request to convert an electronic lien and title record to a paper  
18 document shall be forwarded to the department by the federally insured depository  
19 institution, finance company, lending institution, or other lender through its interface  
20 with its designated public tag agent. Upon receipt of the appropriate title and  
21 handling fees, the department shall provide the requested paper title.

22           (4) Any request to convert an existing paper title to an electronic title shall  
23 be forwarded to the department by the federally insured depository institution,  
24 finance company, lending institution, or other lender through its interface with its  
25 designated public tag agent. Upon receipt of such a request, the department shall  
26 convert the paper to an electronic title at a charge to the lender not to exceed one  
27 dollar and fifty cents per title. This charge shall be forwarded to the state treasurer  
28 for deposit into the Office of Motor Vehicles Customer Service and Technology  
29 Dedicated Fund Account. The public tag agent fee shall not exceed three dollars per

1 title conversion request. The provisions of R.S. 32:412.1 and 728 shall not apply to  
2 this Paragraph.

3 ~~D.~~ E. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, a written or printed  
4 report of an electronic media transaction or recording required under the provisions  
5 of this Section, if certified as true and correct by the department, shall serve as  
6 evidence of any signature, acknowledgment, or information which was provided to  
7 or by the department through electronic means, and the certification shall be  
8 admissible in any legal proceeding as evidence of the facts stated therein.

9 ~~E.~~ F. All information received by the department or a public license tag agent  
10 in connection with an electronic lien recordation or title information shall remain  
11 confidential as specified by the department.

12 ~~F.~~ G. The department shall promulgate rules and regulations in accordance  
13 with the Administrative Procedure Act as are necessary to implement the provisions  
14 of this Section, including but not limited to rules and regulations regarding the  
15 setting of fees in accordance with R.S. 47:532.1(C), the amount of bond required for  
16 public license tag agents operating a secured host computer system, and the  
17 confidentiality of information.

18 ~~G.~~ H.(1) The department is authorized to form a task force to develop and  
19 implement the system required by this Section. The members of this task force shall  
20 be appointed by the secretary and shall include representatives from the department,  
21 the commercial banking industry, sales finance companies, credit unions, savings  
22 institutions, and the vehicle dealership industry.

23 (2)(a) The task force shall research methods whereby the department,  
24 lending institutions and sales finance companies may exchange and maintain  
25 information concerning the perfection and release of vehicle security interests  
26 without submitting or receiving a paper title document. Further, the task force shall  
27 develop methods whereby lending institutions and sales finance companies may  
28 submit, through a variety of electronic media, updated information pertaining to the

1 title record, including the addition, assignment or release of vehicle security  
2 interests.

3 (b) No later than January 1, 2009, the task force shall develop and implement  
4 a pilot program to implement the requirements set forth by this Section.

5 H. I. The procedures referred to in this Section shall be referred to as  
6 electronic lien and title services or E.L.T. services.

7 J. Out-of-state lienholders participating in the Electronic Lien and Title  
8 program recognized by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators  
9 shall be deemed in compliance with this Section.

10 K. Lienholders shall process electronic lien releases within two business  
11 days from the date the funds are deemed collected and shall maintain real-time  
12 accuracy of status information.

13 L. Applications for registration submitted by licensed Louisiana motor  
14 vehicle dealers may be executed and submitted using electronic signatures and  
15 electronic records pursuant to R.S. 47:503.

16 M. All systems approved under this Section shall utilize electronic signatures  
17 and shall integrate seamlessly with electronic lien and title systems.

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19 §726.2. Tampering with or altering odometers; electronic usages

20 A. Licensed Louisiana motor vehicle dealers may execute and submit  
21 electronic signatures and electronic records for all motor vehicle titling, registration,  
22 odometer disclosure, and related documents in connection with the sale, lease,  
23 transfer, or financing of a motor vehicle.

24 B.(1) Any sales agreement for the transfer of a motor vehicle between  
25 persons as defined in this Section shall contain the following statement:

26 "Both buyer and seller have examined the title certificate of the motor vehicle  
27 and it correctly reflects the mileage as it appears on the odometer."

28 (2) This statement shall be placed conspicuously and prominently on the  
29 agreement.

1           C. It shall be unlawful for any person to transfer ownership of a motor  
2           vehicle previously registered in this state or a motor vehicle used by a dealer as a  
3           demonstrator, unless the transferor takes one of the following actions:

4           (1)(a) Enters on an electronic form prescribed by the Department of Public  
5           Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, as specified by state law, the  
6           mileage the motor vehicle has been operated.

7           (b) The form shall be signed by both the seller and buyer and contain a  
8           statement that both parties have viewed the odometer of the motor vehicle. The form  
9           as completed shall then be attached to the instrument evidencing transfer of  
10          ownership.

11          (2) Enters upon the form "not the actual mileage" in the event that the  
12          odometer mileage is known to the person to be less than the motor vehicle has  
13          actually traveled.

14          (3) Enters the total cumulative mileage on the form in the event that it is  
15          known that the mileage indicated on the odometer is beyond its designated mechanical  
16          limits.

17          (4) Enters the same information as set forth in Paragraphs (1) through (3) of  
18          this Subsection on the owner's title certification.

19          (5) The owner of a motor vehicle supplies its mileage upon the annual  
20          renewal registration form supplied by the Department of Public Safety and  
21          Corrections, office of motor vehicles.

22          D.(1) All electronic odometer disclosures executed pursuant to this Section  
23          shall comply with 49 U.S.C. 32705 and 49 CFR Part 580 et seq.

24          (2) The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor  
25          vehicles, may approve electronic systems that meet or exceed the Identity Assurance  
26          Level 2 standard outlined pursuant to the National Institute of Standards and  
27          Technology under SP 800-63 or any successor federal standard.

1           E. It shall be a violation of this Section for any person to knowingly give a  
2           false statement to a transferee, unless the vehicle has been resold in reliance on the  
3           required statement of the prior owner made pursuant to this Section.

4           F. No motor vehicle previously registered in another state, shall be registered  
5           for use in this state, unless the application for a certificate of title in Louisiana is  
6           accompanied by the prior owner's certificate of title and includes the statement as set  
7           forth in Subsection (B)(1) of this Section.

8           G. The certificate of title of the motor vehicle issued to the new owner by the  
9           state of Louisiana shall:

10           (1) Be provided electronically, or printed using a process determined by the  
11           commissioner of the office of motor vehicles to be the most efficient and effective  
12           means of avoiding unauthorized duplication.

13           (2) Indicate on its face the mileage required to be disclosed by the transferor  
14           under this Section.

15           (3) Contain a space for the transferee to disclose the mileage at the time of  
16           any future transfer and to sign and date the disclosure.

17           H. No registration card shall be issued in this state for any motor vehicle,  
18           unless:

19           (1) The application for the registration card contains the prior owner's most  
20           recent registration card and the prior owner's title.

21           (2) The new registration card contains such information as provided on the  
22           application.

23           I. Pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 9:2607, any form used to transfer a  
24           motor vehicle may be signed electronically and shall not require notarization.

25           (1) All systems approved under this Section for electronic signatures and  
26           electronic records shall integrate seamlessly with the electronic lien and title system  
27           established under this Section to create a unified electronic transaction platform.

28           (2) Electronic signatures, electronic records, and powers of attorney executed  
29           pursuant to this Section shall have the same force and effect as written signatures and

1 paper documents, consistent with the Louisiana Uniform Electronic Transactions  
2 Act, pursuant to R.S. 9:2601 et seq., the federal Electronic Signatures in Global and  
3 National Commerce Act, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 7001 et seq., and the Remote Online  
4 Notarization Act, pursuant to R.S. 25:621 et seq.

5 J. A licensed Louisiana motor vehicle dealer who relies in good faith on a  
6 Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, approved  
7 system for electronic signatures, remote notarization of power of attorney, electronic  
8 records, or electronic odometer disclosures shall be deemed in compliance with the  
9 state's requirements governing the form, execution, and submission of these  
10 documents.

11 K.(1) A licensed Louisiana motor vehicle dealer using an approved system  
12 in good faith and without actual knowledge of fraud or unauthorized access shall be  
13 immune from civil liability arising solely from the use of electronic signatures,  
14 remote notarization of powers of attorney or electronic records, including claims  
15 alleging improper execution, authentication, or transmission, provided said dealer  
16 complied with the requirements of this Section and any rules promulgated in  
17 accordance with law.

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

20 L. The provisions contained in this Section shall apply to all motor vehicles  
21 bought, sold, or transferred within the state of Louisiana.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 885 Original

2026 Regular Session

Melerine

**Abstract:** Provides for electronic lien, titling, and recordation of motor vehicles and motor vehicle identification plates.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:705.2(A)) authorizes the Department of Public Safety and Corrections (DPS&C), office of motor vehicles (OMV) to implement a system that offers vehicle title holders a fully paperless and secure digital title.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:705.2(B)) requires that the system:

- (1) Include all functions related to title re-assignments.
- (2) Meet or exceed applicable security requirements as set forth in regulations promulgated by the office of motor vehicles.
- (3) Provide title holders with online, real-time access to motor vehicle titles and status of titles in process.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:705.2(C)) requires that the secure digital vehicle title under proposed law be considered the official title from La. and fully and legally recognized for vehicle related transactions within the state and the U.S.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:705.2(D)) requires a duly certified copy of the digital title be admissible in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding as evidence of the title.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:705.2(E)) authorizes the commissioner of OMV to promulgate necessary rules and regulations to implement proposed law.

Present law (R.S. 32:707.2(A)) requires the dept. to develop and implement a statewide computer system permitting the electronic recording of information concerning the perfection and release of vehicle security interests without submitting or receiving paper title documents. Further authorizes the dept. to allow submission of title information for new, transferred, and corrected certifications of title.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:707.2(A)) specifies that electronic liens, electronic titling, and electronic registration will be included in the system. Further requires that the system have the ability to transact, process, record, and transmit certificates of title through a completely electronic process for:

- (1) All business entities and their service providers applying for automotive titles and registrations, for itself or the customers.
- (2) Electronic submission of liens and lien satisfactions by financial institutions and its service providers pursuant to proposed law.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:707.2(B)) requires that the system be electronically transmitted to the department based on the following:

- (1) If there are one or more liens or encumbrances on the motor vehicle, the dept. must electronically transmit the lien to the first lienholder and notify the first lienholder of any additional liens, provided that a motor vehicle lien is noted on its face of the certificate of the title and notwithstanding any other requirements in present law.
  - (a) Subsequent lien satisfactions must include the name and address of the person satisfying the lien.
  - (b) A certificate of title cannot be issued until the last lien is satisfied and a clear certificate of title is issued to the owner of the vehicle. Until the final lien is satisfied, the department is not obligated to print a paper title.
- (2) Vehicles subject to an electronic lien must have the certificate of title for the vehicle considered to be physically held by the lienholder for the purpose of compliance with state and federal odometer disclosure requirements. Requires a duly certified copy of the office of motor vehicle's electronic record of the lien be admissible in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding in this state as evidence of an existence of a lien.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:707.2(J)) specifies that out-of-state lienholders participating in the Electronic Lien and Title program recognized by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators will be deemed in compliance.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:707.2(K)) requires lienholders to process electronic lien releases within two business days from the date the funds are deemed collected and maintain real-time accuracy of status information.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:707.2(L)) requires that all applications for registration submitted by licensed La. motor vehicle dealers be executed and submitted using electronic signatures and electronic records pursuant to present law.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:707.2(M)) requires that all systems approved utilize electronic signatures and integrate seamlessly with electronic lien and title systems.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:726.2(A)) authorizes licensed La. motor vehicle dealers to execute and submit electronic signatures and electronic records for all motor vehicle titling, registration, odometer disclosure, and related documents in connection with the sale, lease, transfer, or financing of a motor vehicle.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:726.2(B)) requires any sales agreement for the transfer of a motor vehicle between persons as defined in proposed law contain the following statement:

"Both buyer and seller have examined the title certificate of the motor vehicle and it correctly reflects the mileage as it appears on the odometer."

Further requires that this statement be placed conspicuously and prominently on the agreement.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:726.2(C)) specifies that it is unlawful for any person to transfer ownership of a motor vehicle previously registered in this state or a motor vehicle used by a dealer as a demonstrator, unless the transferor employs one of the following actions:

- (1) Enters on an electronic form prescribed by the DPS&C, OMV, as prescribed by state law, the mileage the motor vehicle has been operated. Requires the form be signed by both the seller and buyer and contain a statement that both parties have viewed the odometer of the motor vehicle and then attached to the instrument evidencing transfer of ownership.
- (2) Enters upon the form "not the actual mileage" in the event that the odometer mileage is known to the person to be less than the motor vehicle has actually traveled.
- (3) Enters the total cumulative mileage on the form in the event that it is known that the mileage indicated on the odometer is beyond its designated mechanical limits.
- (4) Enters the same information as set forth in proposed law on the owner's title certification.
- (5) The owner of a motor vehicle supplies its mileage upon the annual renewal registration form supplied by the OMV.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:726.2(D)) requires all electronic odometer disclosures executed in proposed law comply with the applicable federal laws. Further authorizes the DPS&C, OMV, to approve electronic systems that meet or exceed the Identity Assurance Level 2 standard outlined pursuant to the National Institute of Standards and Technology under SP 800-63 or any successor federal standard.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:726.2(E)) specifies that it is a violation of proposed law for any person to give a false statement to a transferee, unless the vehicle has been resold in reliance on the required statement of the prior owner.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:726.2(F)) prohibits a motor vehicle previously registered in another state from being registered for use in this state, unless the application for a certificate of title in La. is accompanied by the prior owner's certificate of title and a form as set for in proposed law.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:726.2(G)) requires that the certificate of title of the motor vehicle issued to the new owner by the state of La. must:

- (1) Be provided electronically, or printed using a process determined by the commissioner of the OMV to be the most efficient and effective means of avoiding unauthorized duplication.
- (2) Indicate on its face the mileage required to be disclosed by the transferor under proposed law.
- (3) Contain a space for the transferee to disclose the mileage at the time of any future transfer and to sign and date the disclosure.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:726.2(H)) specifies that no vehicle registration card can be issued in this state, unless:

- (1) The application for the registration card contains the prior owner's most recent registration card and the prior owner's title.
- (2) The new registration card contains such information as provided on the application.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:726.2(I)) specifies that any form used to transfer a motor vehicle may be signed electronically and does not need notarization based on present law. Further specifies that all systems approved under proposed law for electronic signatures and electronic records must integrate seamlessly with the electronic lien and title system established under proposed law to create a unified electronic transaction platform. Additionally requires that electronic signatures, electronic records, and powers of attorney executed based on proposed law have the same force and effect as written signatures and paper documents, consistent with the La. Uniform Electronic Transaction Act, the federal Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, and the Remote Online Notarization Act.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:726.2(J)) specifies that a licensed La. motor vehicle dealer who relies in good faith on a DPS&C, OMV, approved system for electronic signatures, remote notarization of power of attorney, electronic records, or electronic odometer disclosures will be deemed in compliance with the state's requirements governing the form, execution, and submission of these documents.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:726.2(K)) specifies that a licensed La. motor vehicle dealer using an approved system in good faith and without actual knowledge of fraud or unauthorized access is immune from civil liability arising solely from the use of electronic signatures, remote notarization of powers of attorney or electronic records, including claims alleging improper execution, authentication, or transmission, provided said dealer complied with the requirements of proposed law and present law. Further specifies that the immunity provided for in proposed law does not apply to intentional misconduct or gross negligence.

Proposed law (R.S. 32:726.2(L)) specifies that proposed law applies to all motor vehicles bought, sold, or transferred within the state.

(Amends R.S. 32:707.2; Adds R.S. 32:705.2 and 726.2)