

Department of Finance and Administration

Legislative Impact Statement

Bill: HB1322

Bill Subtitle: TO AMEND CERTAIN DEFINITIONS USED IN THE UNIFORM MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION, CERTIFICATE OF TITLE, AND ANTITHEFT ACT.

Basic Change :

Sponsor: Rep. Payton

HB1322 amends the definition of "water-damaged" under § 27-14-2301(7) to mean a motor vehicle that has been submerged in water to the point that rising water has reached over the doorsill and has entered the passenger compartment. Under current law, "water-damaged" means damage to a motor vehicle caused by submerging or partially submerging the motor vehicle in water to the extent that the motor vehicle was submerged or partially submerged at any water level above the dashboard of the motor vehicle regardless of the actual dollar amount of damage.

Revenue Impact :

Unknown change to the number of salvage titles issued and fees collected by the Office of Motor Vehicle.

Taxpayer Impact :

A taxpayer's vehicle will be considered a salvage vehicle if water enters the vehicle compartment because of the vehicle being submerged or partially submerged in water.

Resources Required :

None.

Time Required :

Adequate time has been provided.

Procedural Changes :

Update Motor Vehicle Manual.

Other Comments :

None.

Legal Analysis :

Under the definitions of § 27-14-2301, a salvage vehicle is any motor vehicle that is water damaged or has sustained any damage in an amount equal to or exceeding 70 percent of its average retail value. Currently, "water-damaged" means that the vehicle has been submerged in water above dashboard level. HB1322 changes the definition of a water-damaged vehicle to mean a vehicle that has been submerged in water to the point that rising water has reached over the doorsill and has entered the passenger compartment.