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WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1984

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Com. Lub. for HOUSE BILL No. 1008

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Passed	March 10,	1984
In Effect	From	Passage

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COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

H. B. 1008

(By Delegate Starcher)

[Passed March 10, 1984; in effect from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section ten, article four, chapter seventeen-a of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to the department of motor vehicles and transfers of title or interest in wrecked, damaged or total loss motor vehicles; surrender of certificate of title and obtaining of "salvage certificate", usable for three successive assignments before new certificate or additional fee required; reducing fee chargeable for issuance of salvage certificate; and enlarging certain time periods.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section ten, article four, chapter seventeen-a of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 4. TRANSFERS OF TITLE OR INTEREST.

§17A-4-10. Salvage certificates for certain wrecked or damaged vehicles; fee; penalty.

- In the event a motor vehicle is determined to be a total
- 2 loss or otherwise designated as "totaled" by any insurance
- 3 company or insurer, and upon payment of an agreed price as a
- 4 claim settlement to any insured or claimant owner for the

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purchase of the vehicle, the insurance company or the insurer 6 shall receive the certificate of title and the vehicle. The in-7 surance company or insurer shall within ten days surrender 8 the certificate of title and a copy of the claim settlement to 9 the department of motor vehicles. The department shall issue 10 a "salvage certificate," on a form prescribed by the commis-11 sioner, in the name of the insurance company or the insurer. 12 Such certificate shall contain on the reverse thereof spaces 13 for three successive assignments permitting up to that number 14 of assignments before a new certificate at an additional fee 15 is required. Upon the sale of the vehicle the insurance com-16 pany or insurer shall endorse the assignment of ownership on 17 the salvage certificate and deliver it to the purchaser who shall also apply for a salvage certificate, even if the insured or claim-19 ant owner is the purchaser. The vehicle shall not be titled or 20 registered for operation on the streets or highways of this 21 state unless there is compliance with subsection (b) of this 22 section.

- (a) Any owner who scraps, compresses, dismantles or destroys a vehicle for which a certificate of title or salvage certificate has been issued, shall within thirty days surrender the certificate of title or salvage certificate to the department for cancellation. Any person who purchases or acquires a vehicle as salvage or scrap, to be dismantled, compressed or destroyed, shall, within thirty days surrender the certificate to the department. If the vehicle is to be reconstructed, the owner must obtain a salvage certificate and comply with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section.
- 33 (b) If the motor vehicle is a "reconstructed vehicle" as 34 defined in section one, article one of this chapter, it may 35 not be titled or registered for operation until it has been inspected by an authorized law-enforcement officer or official 37 state inspection station to determine the operating condition 38 and vehicle identification number and all other inspection 39 requirements. Following an approved inspection, an applica-40 tion for a new certificate of title may be submitted to the de-41 partment; however, the applicant shall be required to submit 42 a sworn affidavit of all costs for component parts, equipment 43 and materials used in the reconstruction. The salvage cer-

44 tificate must also be surrendered to the department before a 45 certificate of title may be issued.

46 (c) The department shall charge a fee of ten dollars for the issuance of each salvage certificate but shall not require 47 48 the payment of the five percent privilege tax. However, upon application for a certificate of title for a reconstructed vehicle, 49 the department shall collect the five percent privilege tax on 50 51 the fair market value of the vehicle as determined by the com-52 missioner, unless the applicant is otherwise exempt from the 53 payment of such privilege tax.

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- (d) A certificate of title issued by the department for a reconstructed vehicle which is deemed to have damages in excess of seventy-five percent or more of the NADA book value shall contain markings in bold print on the face of the title designating reconstructed vehicle.
- Any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than five hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars, or imprisoned in the county jail for not more than one year, or both fined and imprisoned.

Enr. Com. Sub. for H. B. 1008] 4

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled. Chairman Senate Committee Chairman House Committee Originating in the House. Takes effect from passage. Clerk of the Senate Clerk of the House President of the Senate House of Delegates Speaker this the 30 The within day of _____, 1984.

Governor

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