

**Alaska Automobile
Dealers Association**

P.O. Box 201305
Anchorage, Alaska
99520-1305



**Alaska Automobile
Dealers Association**

March 29, 2019

The Honorable Zack Fields and Jonathon Kreiss-Tomkins
Co-Chairs
House State Affairs Committee
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska

Re: House Bill 110

Dear Representative Fields and Kreiss-Tomkins:

The Alaska Automobile Dealers Association wishes to respectfully inform you of our support for House Bill 110. The Alaska Automobile Dealers Association represents both new and used car dealers in Alaska.

This bill will simplify, speed up, and lower the cost of vehicle transfers on death. It will allow a vehicle owner to designate a beneficiary to take joint title to a vehicle upon their death. This designation can be changed at any time as a person's condition or intentions change. Beneficiaries can be any person, natural or artificial (e.g. corporations).

Transfer of title would be automatic upon presenting proof of death to the Alaska division of Motor Vehicles. Vehicle liens remain protected and in force. The bill is similar to transfer on death vehicle laws in at least 15 other states.

We believe House Bill 110 will provide a benefit to Alaskans as they do estate planning and certainly for their heirs as they settle estates.

Sincerely,

Marten Martensen
President

March 26, 2019

Representative Ivy Spohnholz
Alaska State Capitol, Room 421
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: HB 110 – VEHICLES/BOATS: TRANSFER ON DEATH TITLE- SUPPORT

Dear Representative Spohnholz,

On behalf of the more than 85,000 members of AARP Alaska, I wish to extend our support for HB 110, the VEHICLES/BOATS: TRANSFER ON DEATH TITLE. This bill would help seniors and other citizens of Alaska by providing a simple and inexpensive alternative method for transferring title to vehicles or boats upon their death. Similar laws have been in effect for many years in other states and have been considered successful.

The primary advantage of a TOD title is that it would provide Alaska's citizens with an additional option they might use to transfer property upon their death. The convenience of Alaska's citizens and the protection of their rights are, and should be, the main considerations of all proposed legislation. There are many issues and statutes that are not unique to particular states, but rather have general applicability across the country. For this reason, the effort to adopt uniform laws across states is very useful to individuals and families that might live in different places. The Real Property Transfer on Death, as well as Joint Tenancy with Right of Survivorship, are other examples of the how uniform laws work for the citizen's advantage.

As the TOD and Joint Tenancy with Right of Survivorship address needs that occur at a person's death and which are important tools in estate planning, they are very relevant to AARP's age 50+ membership group. We believe HB 110 would help ease the stress of settling affairs at a time of life that is already difficult enough. We appreciate your efforts to streamline the transfer of property at the time of death, and we support the passage and adoption of HB 110 into Alaska law.

AARP Alaska is available to elaborate on our support of the bill or to answer any questions you might have.

Respectfully,



Ken Helander
Advocacy Director
762-3314
khelander@aarp.org



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Department of Health and Social Services

ALASKA COMMISSION ON AGING

P.O. Box 110693
Juneau, AK 99811-0693
Main: 907.465.3250
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April 9, 2019

Representative Ivy Spohnholz
Alaska State Capitol, Room 421
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

Subject: ACoA Letter of Support, HB 110 Transfer on Death Deed

Dear Representative Spohnholz:

The Alaska Commission on Aging (ACoA) is pleased to offer support for HB 110, authored by you, to expand the concept of the Uniform Real Property Transfer on Death Act (URPTODA) in Alaska by creating transfer on death (TOD) titles for vehicles, boats, certain manufactured homes, and trailers. Pending its passage, this legislation will allow Alaskans to designate a beneficiary using a simple form which will remove the property from probate saving time and money in legal and filing fees. Based on our understanding, this legislation will not affect those who already have a will in place.

The Commission on Aging supports HB 110 for the same reason we supported the late Representative Max Gruenberg's URPTODA legislation of 2014 that created the transfer of death deed as it provides a simple, straight forward process using a standardized method to transfer property at little cost to the state. The Commission on Aging also supports HB 110 because it provides an important tool in estate planning for older people and others having few assets and no will. The Transfer on Death deed is a low-cost, effective method that minimizes the stress of settling one's affairs for an older person, as well as for other Alaskans, and their heirs. Thank you for your leadership on HB 110.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gordon Glaser".

Gordon Glaser
Chair, Alaska Commission on Aging

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Denise Daniello".

Denise Daniello
ACoA Executive Director

From: hstaak@googlegroups.com on behalf of [Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins](#)
To: hstaak@googlegroups.com
Subject: Fwd: HB 110 VEHICLES/BOATS: TRANSFER ON DEATH TITLE
Date: Friday, April 12, 2019 9:05:48 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins** <jonathan.s.kt@gmail.com>
Date: Sat, Apr 13, 2019 at 1:05 AM
Subject: Re: HB 110 VEHICLES/BOATS: TRANSFER ON DEATH TITLE
To: Kayla
Cc: Reid Harris <reid.harris@akleg.gov>, Grace Kubitz <grace.kubitz@akleg.gov>

Thanks so much, Kayla. We have it scheduled! I'm copying Grace and Reid, H STA committee aides, so they have this for reference.

Thanks so much for reaching out.

Jonathan

On Wed, Apr 10, 2019 at 7:29 PM Kayla wrote:

Dear Rep. Kreiss-Tomkins,

I am in favor of HB110 which was originally sponsored by my husband, Rep. Max Gruenberg.

Poor Max, I used to nag him because he didn't have a will or trust. He tried to reassure me that I was well taken care of and, when the time came, he was right. My name was on his bank accounts. I needed nothing to have access to them. Even the stock accounts came to me easily because I was the beneficiary of a transfer on death (TOD) provision. Through the TOD process I immediately felt financially secure. Other belongs he had before we met, including his extensive comic book collection, took two years to be finalized.

HB110 will make a transfer of a vehicle, a manufactured home, or boat at the time of death seamless in a similar fashion as Max's stock accounts. Why else is a TOD for a car better than being included in a will or a trust? My estate attorney charged \$70 just to read an email and worked on Max's estate for two years. When I set up a TOD for my property there was a one time charge of \$25.

I would make use of this as law. My dearest friend never had a car as good as we did. What a wonderful gift my car would be. I think of service men and woman who know they are headed to dangerous places. It would be a comfort to know that, just in case, their vehicle was going to their younger brother, sweetheart, or best friend. Should renters need a will to pass on their greatest asset, the family car?

In 2016 this bill passed the House and was schedule for a Senate committee hearing but it just was too close to the end of the session. It had a fiscal note of zero.

Thank you again for hearing HB110 and thank you for taking time to read my note.

Sincerely,

Kayla Epstein
Widow to Rep. Max Gruenberg
(907) 244-4801

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