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RE: Support for House Bill 249

Co-Chairs Fields, Hall, and members of the House Labor and Commerce Committee, my name is Mark Binder and on behalf of Copart, I encourage your **support for House Bill 249**. Copart is a national vehicle auction service company with a location in Anchorage that we use as a hub to service the entire state. We also employ 13 Alaskans and are proud members of the business community.

Our largest business volume is from insurance carriers to liquidate their total loss vehicles acquired during a claim settlement. This bill will allow a vehicle title to be transferred to an insurance company from the original owner in a streamlined method by the removal of the notary requirements. It will also allow for an electronic signature during the process.

This change will significantly reduce the delay for Alaskans during a total loss settlement and get vehicle owners back on the roads much quicker and without as much disruption to their lives. This bill is targeted at its use and will greatly improve the claims experience for all involved, especially those with single car families. Think about it, currently a total loss requires the shipping of documents to a vehicle owner, then back to the insurance company which can take several days or even more than a week. If this bill passes, the entire process could be reduced to one phone call, and the settlement would be completed.

This bill is also a business-friendly change which increases company efficiencies by having less touches on title transactions. It is an option currently available for our specific industry in forty other states, with seven, including Alaska, being pursued in 2026 legislative sessions.

In 2019 NHTSA changed their regulations on title transfers to allow this efficiency boost and our goal is to have Alaska statutes align with this guidance. AAMVA, which is a non-profit educational organization for state DMVs, has also published similar guidelines in a recent White Paper.

I again ask for your support for House Bill 249. I am available to answer any questions that you may have about this language. Thank you for your time allowing me to share our position of this bill with the Committee.

Mark Binder
Director of Government Affairs
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