

Electronic Bill Talking Points – Notary Removal for Electronic Signatures

- This bill only applies to a very targeted segment of title transfers which are transferred into an insurance company's name and not any other entity.
- This proposed change has no influence on who buys the units from the insurer or the auction process.
- In the unlikely event that something negative does occur and the wrong owner is indemnified due to the lack of a notary, the insurer would still be held accountable to indemnify the owner. This is current practice with wet signatures.
- This is a consumer-friendly change because:
 - Total loss claims are a high stress moment for a citizen by removing burdens in this low-risk title transfer. This helps relieve these concerns and lets them get back whole faster.
 - Electronic signatures are a modern way of processing secure documents and have authentication protections to protect the integrity of the process.
 - Electronic signatures decrease the time for a vehicle owner to be indemnified for their total loss.
 - Notarizing typically requires face to face contact, which is especially challenging, especially with remote vehicle owners.
 - A remote notary may be thought of as an option but is a very clunky process and we believe is not needed based on our experiences with other states that have removed notary requirements. There is also a scarcity of remote notaries available.
- This is a business-friendly change because it increases company efficiencies by:
 - Less touches on a file for the insurer and their auction.
 - Less real estate footprint required due to faster turn of vehicles from removal of title transfer delays.
 - Less carbon footprint due to the removal of the need to travel (without a vehicle) to get a notary and the shipment of documents to consumers.
- This concept is approved in multiple other states (see map).
- American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) – Recently issued a [White Paper](#) confirming the legality and legitimacy of electronic signatures.
- This bill does not conflict and is supported with NHTSA regulations because electronic signatures comply with the new rules. This is confirmed in rules published in 2019 and is reinforced [in this letter](#).