

OHIO AUTOMOBILE DEALERS ASSOCIATION



May 3, 2021

The Honorable Stephanie Kunze, Chairwoman
Ohio Senate Transportation Committee
Statehouse
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairwoman Kunze:

On behalf of our over 830 franchised dealer members, we are writing to express our support for Senate Bill 79. This legislation would provide a mechanism for dealers to remove abandoned vehicles from their dealership premises after providing adequate notice to the owner and any lienholder.

For background purposes, dealers often find vehicles abandoned at the dealership after customers choose not to retrieve them. In addition, vehicles are regularly towed to a dealership after hours without owner identification. Senate Bill 79 allows vehicles to be removed by a towing service when it has been abandoned by the customer or owner so long as the dealer provides notice to any owner or lienholder before its removal.

Under the bill a dealer will search BMV records to determine ownership and lienholder. Before the vehicle can be removed, the bill requires dealers to send the owner and any lienholder notice via certified mail requesting that they retrieve the vehicle. If after 14 days the vehicle is not retrieved, a dealer may have it towed, at which time the tow operator would then have to provide additional notices to the owner and any lienholder outlined in current law.

We urge your support of the bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zach Doran".

Zach Doran
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Cannon".

Joe Cannon
VP, Government Relations