

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## SHB 1507

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As Passed House  
March 15, 1993

**Title:** An act relating to abandoned, unauthorized, or junk vehicles.

**Brief Description:** Penalizing owners of abandoned, unauthorized, or junk vehicles.

**Sponsors:** By House Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Representatives Zellinsky, Ballard, Chappell, Van Luven, R. Johnson, Campbell, R. Meyers, Springer and Sheldon.)

**Brief History:**

Reported by House Committee on:  
Transportation, February 16, 1993, DPS;  
Passed House, March 15, 1993, 92-5.

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### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

**Majority Report:** The substitute bill be substituted therefor and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by 24 members: Representatives R. Fisher, Chair; Brown, Vice Chair; Jones, Vice Chair; Schmidt, Ranking Minority Member; Brough; Brumsickle; Cothorn; Eide; Forner; Hansen; Heavey; Horn; Johanson; J. Kohl; R. Meyers; Miller; H. Myers; Orr; Patterson; Quall; Sheldon; Shin; Wood; and Zellinsky.

**Minority Report:** Do not pass. Signed by 1 member: Representative Fuhrman.

**Staff:** Brad Lovaas (786-7307).

**Background:** A registered tow truck operator who has complied with all impoundment and notification laws has a lien upon a vehicle for the towing and storage charges incurred.

In addition to the lien, a registered tow truck operator has a deficiency claim against the registered owner of the vehicle for towing and storage of the vehicle not to exceed \$300 less the amount bid at auction, and for vehicles over 10,000 pounds gross vehicle weight, the deficiency is \$1,000.

**Summary of Bill:** The last registered owner of record is presumed liable for the abandonment of a vehicle unless the owner has filed a seller's report or vehicle theft report. If an unauthorized vehicle is unredeemed, then the last registered owner is guilty of a traffic infraction.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested February 2, 1993.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Testimony For:** This bill will aid in the disposal of abandoned vehicles by providing the tow truck operator with a greater level of assurance that he will be compensated for his services.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Witnesses:** Stu Halsan, Washington Tow Truck Association.