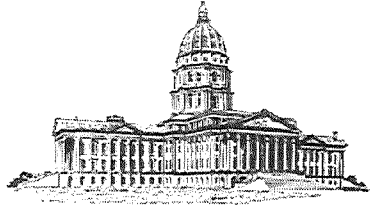


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Leo G. Delperdang
Representative, 94th District

I am here today as a Legislator, as a Citizen of Kansas, and as a member of SEMA, the automotive Specialty Equipment Market Association to testify in favor of HB-2594

I am asking for your support for a law, which would remove the unnecessary restrictions currently required for antique vehicle restorations and repairs.

Our classic car hobby represents a \$45 Billion specialty automotive industry. I have experienced and visited with many of the 7,500 mostly small businesses across the country. Including, 68 businesses based right here in Kansas, that manufacture, rebuild, distribute, and retail parts and accessories for motor vehicle restorations.

Current Kansas statutes do not allow for removal of VIN Plates, even if necessary for damage or rust repairs. But statutes do say that a motor vehicle with a VIN that has been removed, abused, or defaced is automatically deemed "Contraband" and subject to forfeiture and destruction.

When considering this on newer vehicles, I fully support these laws and maintain the need to keep the VIN Plates in-tact, in order to mitigate vehicle alterations and theft.

However, their needs to be some exceptions to this rule of law. In the case of an antique vehicle, defined as being "more than 35 years old", there can be extensive repairs required to return the vehicle back to it's original state. These repairs frequently require access to areas of the vehicle where a VIN Plate is attached.

HB-2594 provides for the following concerns:

- Changes current statutes to allow vehicles registered as "antique" the reasonable removal and reinstallation of a vehicle identification number (VIN) if the act is necessary for repair or restoration.
- Acknowledges that restoration experts nationwide commonly rely on the practice of temporary VIN removal to achieve the highest level of top-quality finishes.
- Allows enthusiasts to protect their right to thoroughly restore a vehicle into an award-winning condition without fear of being prosecuted for tampering with a VIN.
- Recognizes that collection and restoration of historic and classic cars is an important part of preserving the technological achievements and cultural heritage of the United States.