

HCS SB 824 -- VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS

SPONSOR: Griesheimer (Schlottach)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Transportation and Motor Vehicles by a vote of 20 to 0.

This substitute allows peace officers the option to seize or not seize a motor vehicle that has a missing or illegible identification number and gives the responsibility of storing a seized vehicle to the police agency investigating the motor vehicle in question instead of the courts. Current law mandates law enforcement officers to seize any motor vehicle with an altered or missing public vehicle identification number.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say the bill allows law enforcement agencies the option to seize a vehicle based upon probable cause. Law enforcement will have the discretion to not seize a vehicle if the altering or destruction of the vehicle identification number does not have criminal intent.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Griesheimer; and State Highway Patrol.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Robert Triplett, Legislative Analyst