

HB 179 -- Vehicles Abandoned at Automobile Repair Businesses

Sponsor: Stevenson

This bill establishes a procedure allowing automobile repair businesses to sell certain vehicles that have been abandoned by the owner at the repair shop.

A vehicle left on the premises of an auto repair business will be considered abandoned if it is not claimed by the owner within 120 days from the completion of the repair work. Within 45 days after a vehicle is deemed abandoned, the repair shop must notify the owner and all lienholders of record, by certified mail with return receipt requested, that the vehicle must be claimed within 30 days or it will be dismantled, destroyed, or sold at public sale.

The bill specifies the requirements for providing proper notice, selling a vehicle by an auto repair business, applying proceeds of a vehicle sale against repair costs, disposing of excess proceeds from the vehicle sale, and titling of a new owner.