HB 2307 -- Motor Vehicles and Driver's Licenses

Sponsor: Cooper

This bill changes the laws regarding driveaway license plates, motor vehicles, motor vehicle dealers, and driver's licenses. In its main provisions, the bill:

- (1) Specifies that driveaway license plates can only be used by an owner, corporate officer, or employee of a business to which the plate was issued;
- (2) Requires an applicant for a driveaway license plate to provide the business name, address, telephone number, business owner's full name, birth date, driver's or nondriver's license number, home address, home telephone number, signature, printed name of the business owner or person making the application, and a statement explaining the usage of the driveaway plate. The applicant must also provide proof of financial responsibility sufficient to cover each motor vehicle the applicant will operate during the registration period. If any of the information provided in the application changes, the applicant must report the change to the Department of Revenue within 10 days of the change. Any violation will result in the revocation of the applicant's driveaway license, and anyone knowingly using a revoked license plate will be guilty of a misdemeanor;
- (3) Prohibits an entity that finances or establishes a line of credit that enables a motor vehicle dealer to purchase a vehicle from holding, or keeping a dealer from holding, any certificate of ownership as part of the financing or line of credit. Anyone holding a certificate from a dealer as part of that financing or line of credit will be guilty of a class A misdemeanor for a first offense and a class D felony for any subsequent offense;
- (4) Requires certain records of a dealer or person operating a public garage to be kept for five years instead of the current three years;
- (5) Specifies that any dealer who knowingly makes a false statement or omits a material fact in a monthly sales report to the department will be guilty of a class A misdemeanor;
- (6) Specifies that if the department director reasonably believes that a certificate of ownership, license plate, or license plate tab was obtained fraudulently, the person in possession of the item must surrender it to the department director or his or her designated representative upon request. Any person failing to surrender the item will be guilty of a class A misdemeanor;

- (7) Specifies that any person, partnership, corporation, company, or association that has a second or subsequent conviction of selling six or more vehicles in a calendar year with certain exceptions will be guilty of a class D felony. Currently, any violation is a class A misdemeanor;
- (8) Requires the department to immediately revoke the business license, dealer license plates, and all temporary unused license plates issued to any motor vehicle dealer or manufacturer, boat dealer or manufacturer, public or wholesale motor vehicle auction, or wholesale motor vehicle dealer that the department director or his or her representative determines through reasonable means is uninhabited or abandoned;
- (9) Adds a nondriver identification card to the provisions regarding the forms of identification that are unlawful to possess or display if it has been canceled, suspended, revoked, or is knowingly factitious; and
- (10) Authorizes the department director to prosecute anyone who knowingly makes a false statement regarding a driver's license or commercial driver's license within one year, but no later than six years, after the department director first discovers the falsity.