

## Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Office of Research and Drafting Legislative Budget Office

S.B. 8

135<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

# **Bill Analysis**

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Sens. Schuring and Lang

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#### SUMMARY

Specifies that a motor vehicle dealer generally is not liable for any representations, errors, omissions, or inaccuracies contained in a third-party motor vehicle history report when providing the report to a purchaser or potential purchaser.

### **DETAILED ANALYSIS**

#### Third-party vehicle history reports: immunity

The bill specifies that a motor vehicle dealer is not liable for any representations, errors, omissions, or inaccuracies contained in a third-party motor vehicle history report (e.g., <u>Carfax</u> <u>report</u>) when providing the report to a purchaser, lessee, or any other third party, in conjunction with a sale, lease, or potential sale or lease of a motor vehicle. A motor vehicle dealer, which includes the dealer's agents and employees, can be held liable for the contents of the report if the report is based on information the dealer provided directly to the report's preparer.<sup>1</sup>

Under the bill, a third-party motor vehicle history report is any formal or informal report prepared by a person other than a motor vehicle dealer that relates to one or more of the following:

- A motor vehicle's current ownership or a motor vehicle's certificate of title transfer history;
- A brand on a motor vehicle's certificate of title;
- A lien on a motor vehicle;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> R.C. 4517.262(B).

- A motor vehicle's service, maintenance, or repair history;
- A motor vehicle's condition;
- A motor vehicle's accident or collision history; and
- A motor vehicle's mileage.<sup>2</sup>

Current law, unchanged by the bill, requires a person who is selling a motor vehicle at retail or wholesale to execute a contract with the buyer that includes a written description of the motor vehicle, the vehicle identification number, the mileage on the motor vehicle's odometer, a statement declaring the odometer's accuracy, and other terms pertaining to the sale.<sup>3</sup>

#### HISTORY

| Action     | Date     |
|------------|----------|
| Introduced | 01-11-23 |
|            |          |
|            |          |

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> R.C. 4517.262(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> R.C. 4517.26(A), not in the bill.