

17:23-19

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 17:23-19

(Abandoned vehicles--public agencies report to Auto Theft Bureau)

LAWS OF: 1989

CHAPTER: 65

Bill No: S3122

Sponsor(s): Graves

Date Introduced: December 12, 1988

Committee: Assembly: Law, Public Safety & Defense

Senate: Law, Public Safety & Defense

Amended during passage: Yes Amendemnts during passage denoted by asterisks

Date of Passage: Assembly: February 27, 1989

Senate: January 23, 1989

Date of Approval: April 14, 1989

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes (Below)

Committee Statement: Assembly: Yes

Senate: Yes

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on signing: No

Following were printed:

Reports: No

Hearings: No

(over)

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JAN 23 1989
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Sponsor's statement:

This bill requires an insurer of automobiles to report the theft or salvage of a motor vehicle to the National Automobile Theft Bureau for inclusion in the NATB's central index file.

See newspaper clipping--enclosed:

"Kean is supporting car theft bill", 3-4-89 Trenton Times.

[FIRST REPRINT]
SENATE, No. 3122

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 12, 1988

By Senator GRAVES

1 AN ACT ¹[establishing a central reporting agency for] requiring
the reporting of¹ automobile theft or salvage and
3 supplementing Title 17 of the Revised Statutes.

5 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*
State of New Jersey:

7 1. a. Any insurer transacting automobile insurance in this
State shall:

9 (1) report the theft or salvage of a motor vehicle to the
National Automobile Theft Bureau (hereinafter referred to as the
11 NATB) in accordance with the constitution and operating
procedures of the NATB; and

13 (2) reimburse the NATB for the costs of the performance of its
duties under its constitution and operating procedures in a
15 manner to be determined by the governing board of the NATB.

b. The National Automobile Theft Bureau shall:

17 (1) receive a report of the theft or salvage of a motor vehicle
made by an insurer under subsection (a) of this section and shall
19 include that information in the central index file which it
maintains; and

21 (2) cooperate with an insurer who submits a report and with a
law enforcement agency which is conducting an investigation and
23 release information when appropriate and necessary which it has
received on a claim or an investigation.

25 c. Any information provided to the NATB pursuant to this
section shall be confidential and shall not be subject to public
27 inspection. Such information shall not be subject to subpoena or
subpoena duces tecum unless, after a notice and hearing, a court
29 determines that an ongoing investigation would not be
jeopardized by compliance with a subpoena or subpoena duces
31 tecum.

EXPLANATION--Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the
above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:
¹ Assembly ALP committee amendments adopted February 6, 1989.

1 d. An insurer, a law enforcement agency, or the NATB, or
2 their agents or employees, shall not be subject to civil liability in
3 a cause of action of any kind for conducting an investigation or
4 providing or receiving any information which is required to be
5 reported under subsection a. of this section.

6 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

7

9 INSURANCE
10 Motor Vehicles

11

12 Requires auto insurer to report auto theft or salvage to National
13 Automobile Theft Bureau.

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STATEMENT

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This bill requires an insurer of automobiles to report the theft or salvage of a motor vehicle to the National Automobile Theft Bureau for inclusion in the NATB's central index file.

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INSURANCE

9

Motor Vehicles

11

Requires auto insurer to report auto theft or salvage to National Automobile Theft Bureau.

ASSEMBLY LAW, PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 3122

with Assembly committee amendments

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 6, 1989

The Assembly Law, Public Safety and Corrections Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 3122 with amendment.

This bill requires an insurer of automobiles to report the theft or salvage of a motor vehicle to the National Automobile Theft Bureau for inclusion in the NATB's central index file. An insurer also is required to reimburse the NATB for the costs of operation in a manner determined by the governing board of the NATB. Information provided to the NATB is confidential and is not subject to public inspection.

The National Automobile Theft Bureau, which has its Eastern Division in Woodbury, NY, is a non-profit organization engaged in motor vehicle loss prevention. The bureau maintains a computerized program containing reports of stolen or abandoned motor vehicles throughout the United States. In 1985, the bureau's files contained more than 9.2 million reports which were available to law enforcement agencies and insurance companies investigating claims involving stolen or abandoned motor vehicles. The availability of such information is essential not only to facilitate the successful investigation of motor vehicle thefts, but also to frustrate and prevent insurance fraud schemes. The reporting requirement set forth in this bill will ensure our State's participation in this program and thus assure that the bureau's information base is up-to-date and accurate.

The committee amended the title to reflect that the bill requires the reporting of theft or salvage rather than the establishment of a central reporting agency.

SENATE LAW, PUBLIC SAFETY AND DEFENSE COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 3122

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 12, 1989

The Senate Law, Public Safety and Defense Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 3122.

This bill requires an insurer of automobiles in this State to report the theft or salvage of a motor vehicle to the National Automobile Theft Bureau (NATB) for inclusion in the NATB's central index file.

An insurer will also be required to reimburse the NATB for the costs of operation in a manner to be determined by the governing board of the NATB. Information provided to the NATB is to be confidential and will not be subject to public inspection.

The National Automobile Theft Bureau, which has its Eastern Division in Woodbury, New York, is a nonprofit organization engaged in motor vehicle loss prevention. The bureau maintains a computerized program containing reports of stolen or abandoned motor vehicles throughout the United States. In 1985, the bureau's files contained more than 9.2 million reports which were available to law enforcement agencies and insurance companies investigating claims involving stolen or abandoned motor vehicles. The availability of such information facilitates the successful investigation of motor vehicle thefts and also frustrates and prevents insurance fraud schemes. The reporting requirement set forth in this bill will ensure our State's participation in this program and thus assure that the bureau's information base is up-to-date and accurate.