

- SUBJECT:** Identifying certain flood-damaged vehicles
- COMMITTEE:** Transportation — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 9 ayes — Canales, Landgraf, Bernal, Y. Davis, Goldman, Hefner, Leman, Ortega, Raney
- 0 nays
- 4 absent — Krause, Martinez, Thierry, E. Thompson
- WITNESSES:** For — None
- Against — None
- On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Jeremiah Kuntz, Texas Department of Motor Vehicles)
- BACKGROUND:** Transportation Code sec. 501.09112 governs titles for nonrepairable and salvaged vehicles. A salvage title or record of title for a vehicle that is a salvage vehicle because of flood damage must bear appropriate notation. The owner of a vehicle whose title indicates that it is a salvage vehicle due to flood damage may sell, transfer, or release the vehicle only as provided by law.
- DIGEST:** HB 2310 would require the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles and the Texas Division of Emergency Management to coordinate with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to ensure the department had information, including a vehicle identification number, necessary to apply required notation to the salvage title of a vehicle that:
- had been damaged exclusively by flood; and
  - had been repaired or salvaged using financial assistance administered by FEMA.

This bill would take effect September 1, 2019.

**SUPPORTERS  
SAY:**

HB 2310 would ensure coordination between the Texas Department of Emergency Management, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (TxDMV) to capture vehicle identification numbers (VIN) of flood-damaged vehicles so that the titles of those vehicles could receive the proper notation. This title notation is necessary so subsequent buyers of a vehicle know that it was flooded. This would address a problem that arose in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey in which FEMA did not collect the VIN from Texans to whom it provided assistance for flood-damaged vehicles. This impeded the ability of the TxDMV to attach the required notation to the title of those vehicles.

**OPPONENTS  
SAY:**

No concerns identified.