

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1263

Page 1, line 1, after "to" insert "create and enact a new subsection to section 39-26-07 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to right of an owner to reclaim an abandoned vehicle; to"

Page 1, line 2, remove the first "and"

Page 1, line 2, after "23.1-15-07" insert ", 39-26-02, and 39-26-06"

Page 2, line 4, after the underscored period insert "Emergency towing" means the towing of a vehicle due to a motor vehicle accident, mechanical breakdown on public roadway, or other emergency-related incident necessitating vehicle removal for public safety with or without the owner's consent.

6."

Page 2, line 7, replace "6." with "7."

Page 2, line 10, replace "7." with "8."

Page 2, line 12, replace "8." with "9."

Page 3, remove lines 16 through 22

Page 3, line 23, replace "b." with:

"4. Notice under subsection 3 must include:

- a. The license plate number and state of registration;
- b. The location from which the motor vehicle was towed;
- c. The location to which the motor vehicle was towed;
- d. The name, address, and telephone number of the commercial towing service that towed and is storing the motor vehicle; and
- e. A description of the motor vehicle, including make, model, year, and color.

5."

Page 3, line 23, remove "this subsection must be assessed a fee"

Page 3, line 24, replace "of five hundred dollars" with "subsection 3 may not collect a storage fee under section 23.1-15-06"

Page 4, after line 16, insert:

"5. This section also applies to emergency towing."

Page 5, after line 17, insert:

**"SECTION 6. AMENDMENT.** Section 39-26-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**39-26-02. Definitions. (Contingent repeal - [See note](#))**

As used in this chapter, unless the context or subject matter otherwise requires:

1. "Abandoned motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle, as defined in section 39-01-01, that has remained for a period of more than forty-eight hours on public property illegally or lacking vital component parts, or is located on private property without consent of the person in control of such property or in an inoperable condition such that it has no substantial potential further use consistent with its usual functions unless it is kept in an enclosed garage or storage building. It also means a motor vehicle voluntarily surrendered by its owner to a person duly licensed under section 39-26-10. An antique automobile, as defined in section 39-04-10.4, and other motor vehicles to include parts car and special interest vehicles, may not be considered an abandoned motor vehicle within the meaning of this chapter.
2. "Collector" means the owner of one or more special interest vehicles who collects, purchases, acquires, trades, or disposes of special interest vehicles or parts thereof for the person's own use in order to restore, preserve, and maintain a special interest vehicle or antique vehicle.
3. "Commercial towing service" means a registered business in North Dakota that tows motor vehicles.
4. "Department" means the state department of health.
5. "Emergency towing" means the towing of a vehicle due to a motor vehicle accident, mechanical breakdown on public roadway, or other emergency-related incident necessitating vehicle removal for public safety with or without the owner's consent.
6. "Parts car" means a motor vehicle generally in nonoperable condition which is owned by the collector to furnish parts to restore, preserve, and maintain a special interest vehicle or antique vehicle.
- ~~6-7.~~ "Special interest vehicle" means a motor vehicle which is at least twenty years old and which has not been altered or modified from original manufacturer's specifications and, because of its historic interest, is being preserved by hobbyists.
- ~~7-8.~~ "Unit of government" includes a state department or agency, a county, city, township, or other political subdivision.
- ~~8-9.~~ "Vital component parts" means those parts of a motor vehicle that are essential to the mechanical functioning of the vehicle, including, but not limited to, the motor, drive train, and wheels.

**SECTION 7. AMENDMENT.** Section 39-26-06 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**39-26-06. Notice to owner of abandoned vehicle. (Contingent repeal - [See note](#))**

1. When an abandoned motor vehicle does not fall within the provisions of section 39-26-05, the unit of government or commercial towing service taking it into custody shall give notice of the taking within ten days. The notice must set forth the date and place of the taking, the year, make, model, and serial number of the abandoned motor vehicle and the place where the vehicle is being held, must inform the owner and any lienholders or secured parties of their right to reclaim the vehicle under section 39-26-07, and must state that failure of the owner or lienholders or secured parties to exercise their right to reclaim the vehicle is deemed a waiver by them of all right, title, and interest in the vehicle and a consent to the disposal of the vehicle pursuant to section 39-26-08.
2. The notice must be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the registered owner, if any, of the abandoned motor vehicle and to all readily identifiable lienholders or secured parties of record. If it is impossible to determine with reasonable certainty the identity and address of the registered owner and all lienholders, the notice must be published once in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where the motor vehicle was abandoned. Published notices may be grouped together for convenience and economy.
3. Subject to section 39-26-05, a commercial towing service that takes an abandoned motor vehicle into custody shall provide notice to the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction in the location from which the motor vehicle was towed within twelve hours after completing the tow.
4. Notice under subsection 3 must include:
  - a. The license plate number and state of registration;
  - b. The location from which the motor vehicle was towed;
  - c. The location to which the motor vehicle was towed;
  - d. The name, address, and telephone number of the commercial towing service that towed and is storing the motor vehicle; and
  - e. A description of the motor vehicle, including make, model, year, and color.
5. A commercial towing service that violates subsection 3 may not collect a storage fee under section 39-26-07 and shall return the motor vehicle to the registered owner at no cost to the owner.

**SECTION 8.** A new subsection to section 39-26-07 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

This section also applies to emergency towing."

Renumber accordingly