

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 556

repossession plate statute allows repossession plates to be used for repossession, demonstration and disposal only. The literal interpretation of the statute only permits the plates to be used for transporting the vehicle from the place it is repossessed to drive for demonstration, if the reposessor tries to recoup his or her losses by selling it, or to drive it to a place for disposal. The statute does not allow these plates to be used on a vehicle for maintenance, in case the repossessed vehicle has been damaged. It does not allow the car to be taken to a gas station to fill the tank. It does not even allow the vehicle to sit in a parking place or driveway for storage between the time it is repossessed and the time it is either sold or disposed of. What has been happening is that small businesses, such as Mid America Financial Corporation, have been ticketed for storing repossessed vehicles with the repossession plates on the car. And, although they've gone to court a number of times and the judges have refused to enforce the tickets, they continue to have a problem because the statute does not say specifically that you could have the car stored, or be repaired, or be taken even to be gassed up. And what this does is simply allow for repossession plate to be used, if you need to take the vehicle to be taken for gas and repair, as well as to be stored. I would ask my colleagues to move this amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: We're open for discussion on the Kiel amendment to LB 556. Senator Chambers, you're recognized.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'd like to ask Senator Kiel a question.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Kiel, would you yield?

SENATOR KIEL: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Kiel, how do we know that these are the only reasons that these people are going to use these plates for?

SENATOR KIEL: Well, the statute is very specific in that what it...what it says they may be used for. Now, obviously, anybody could break the law or do something else with them, but this is what it allows right now.