

Vehicle Identification Number Inspections; SB 351

SB 351 amends law related to Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) inspections in these ways:

- Removes the requirement that law enforcement officers arrest the owner or custodian of a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer with a VIN that has been destroyed, removed, altered, or defaced;
- Clarifies that any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer with a VIN that has been destroyed, removed, altered, or defaced and is seized by a law enforcement officer is contraband property. Under this classification, disposition of the seized contraband is governed by KSA 2013 Supp. 22-2512, relating to the custody and disposition of seized property;
- Requires the Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP) to ensure that assembled vehicles are in compliance with the VIN inspection statute (KSA 8-116). If KHP is satisfied the assembled vehicle is not in violation of the statute, KHP must determine the make, model, and year of the assembled vehicle;
- Requires that the VIN inspection fee retained by an inspecting law enforcement agency be used for law enforcement purposes and not used to supplant the law enforcement agency's budget; and
- Prevents a law enforcement agency or employee acting within the scope of employment from liability for damages resulting from VIN inspections.