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Members of the Transportation Committee;

Thank you for taking the time to consider House Bill HB-1051, "Salvage Title Bill." Passage of this bill is vital to maintaining the integrity of salvage vehicles, their titles and the inspection process. By allowing vehicles older than six years of age, which have been involved in serious accidents and not inspected, to move into main stream use, jeopardizes the safety of the entire motoring public. Non passage also opens Colorado up to fraud committed by questionable rebuilders and to becoming a virtual dumping ground. In today's economy, the value of used vehicles is at an all-time high and salvage rebuilders are aware of that fact. Not all, but those that are willing to take the chance, are taking advantage of the system. Many times, parts from stolen vehicles are used to rebuild vehicles that have been wrecked, and vice versa. Other times, manufacturer installed safety equipment, such as airbags, are not replaced in the repaired vehicle. Vehicles that have been identified as flood vehicles and are branded as "parts only vehicles" tend to make their way back into commerce if they are not properly inspected. Too many times, these vehicles are then sold to unsuspecting buyers/victims on clean titles and the purchaser then has to go through a long and expensive legal process, if they can afford it, to identify the seller and locate them. It is important that these vehicles be properly identified as salvage, be inspected by trained inspectors and permanently branded on both the vehicle and the title.

As President of the International Association of Auto Theft Investigator's and representing over 3500 member worldwide, I believe that it is essential that this legislation be passed to maintain the integrity of the salvage vehicle process in Colorado and to protect the unknowing purchasers and the motoring public as a whole.

Respectfully:

Joe Brosius
President,
International Association
Of Auto Theft Investigator's