

**UPDATED SUMMARY
SENATE BILL 14-176**

Second Regular Session - Sixty-ninth Colorado General Assembly

This summary applies to the reengrossed version of this bill as introduced in the second house. It does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. This summary reflects only the main points of the legislation.

The bill defines a chop shop as any building, lot, facility, or other structure or premise where:

- ! Any person or persons possess, receive, store, disassemble, or alter, including the alteration or concealment of any identifying feature or number, an unlawfully obtained motor vehicle or major component motor vehicle part for the purpose of using, selling, or disposing of the motor vehicle or major component motor vehicle part; or
- ! Two or more unlawfully obtained motor vehicles are present for the purpose of alteration, sale, or disposal; or
- ! Six or more unlawfully obtained major component motor vehicle parts from 2 or more motor vehicles are present for the purpose of alteration, sale, or disposal.

A person commits a class 4 felony if he or she knowingly owns or operates a chop shop, knowing that it is a chop shop, or conspires with another person to own, operate, or conduct a chop shop, knowing that it is a chop shop.

A person commits a class 5 felony if he or she knowingly:

- ! Transports an unlawfully obtained motor vehicle or major component motor vehicle part to or from a chop shop, knowing that it is a chop shop; or
- ! Sells or transfers to, or purchases or receives from, a chop shop, knowing that it is a chop shop, an unlawfully obtained motor vehicle or major component motor vehicle part.

A person commits altering or removing a vehicle identification number if ~~except as necessary to effect legitimate repairs,~~ he or she knowingly:

- ! Removes, changes, alters, counterfeits, defaces, destroys, disguises, falsifies, forges, or obliterates the vehicle identification number, manufacturer's number, or engine number of a motor vehicle or major component motor vehicle part *with an intent to misrepresent the identity or prevent the identification of a motor vehicle or major component motor vehicle part*; or
- ! Possesses, purchases, disposes of, sells, or transfers a motor vehicle or a major component motor vehicle part *with knowledge* that it contains a removed, changed, altered, counterfeited, defaced, destroyed, disguised, falsified, forged, or obliterated vehicle identification number, manufacturer's number, or engine number *unless such motor vehicle or major component motor vehicle part is otherwise in compliance with existing provisions of law concerning the*

lawful possession of stolen motor vehicles and motor vehicle parts by authorized persons.

The newly created offenses in the bill do not apply to a private party or to an agent of a private party that is acting with the authorization of a law enforcement agency to lawfully seize, retain, recycle, transport, or otherwise dispose of a motor vehicle or major component motor vehicle part with a vehicle identification number, manufacturer number, or engine number that is removed, changed, altered, counterfeited, defaced, destroyed, disguised, falsified, forged, or obliterated.

Altering or removing a vehicle identification number is a class 5 felony.

The bill makes an appropriation.