



August 24, 2011

Honorable Robert Blumenfield  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1215 (Blumenfield) -- SUPPORT

Dear Assembly member Blumenfield:

The National Association of Consumer Advocates (NACA) is a national non-profit organization of more than 1500 attorneys, law professors, and other consumer advocates, located in California and across the country, who are committed to promoting justice to consumer. NACA is pleased to support your AB 1215, which will require new and used car dealers in California to obtain reports from the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS) for each used vehicle they offer for sale, and provide a warning on those vehicles which meet one of the following criteria:

- When a NMVTIS vehicle history report indicates that the vehicle is or has been a junk or salvage automobile
- When the vehicle has been reported to NMVTIS as a junk or salvage automobile by a junk yard, salvage yard, or insurance carrier pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 30504
- When the vehicle's certificate of title contains a brand, such as "salvage," "flood," or "lemon law buyback"

By requiring that the notice be posted on the vehicle itself, the bill helps ensure that prospective car buyers obtain crucial information about the vehicle's history prior to engaging in negotiations, rather than hours later, when the negotiations have already concluded. Thus, both parties to the transaction will tend to be on more equal footing, and the market can function as intended.

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For a prospective purchaser, as they comparison shop among vehicles that often appear to be the same, to the untrained eye, the fact a vehicle was damaged so severely it was deemed to be a total loss may be the single most important piece of information about that particular vehicle. Awareness of prior damage history is especially important when the vehicle is intended for use by a teenager, as young drivers are already at inherently high risk of being killed or injured in a vehicle crash.

We applaud your leadership in authoring AB 1215, which will benefit car buyers, as well as honest auto dealers, who generally choose not to traffic in totaled, junk, and salvage vehicles. We urge members of the Senate and Assembly to vote AYE for AB 1512, to help make buying a car from a licensed dealer less risky and driving in California safer.

Thank you for your consideration of our views. Should you or your staff have any questions regarding our position, please do not hesitate to contact me directly, at [Delicia@naca.net](mailto:Delicia@naca.net) or 202-452-1989.

Sincerely,



Delicia Reynolds Hand  
Legislative Director