

Secretary of State

Department of the Secretary of State Bureau of Motor Vehicles

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Catherine Curtis
Deputy Secretary of State

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS

L.D. 2244, "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles' Motor Vehicle Dealer Display Area and Licensing Requirements Working Group"

Testimony Provided by Shenna Bellows, Secretary of State Department of the Secretary of State

March 7, 2024

Senator Curry, Representative Roberts, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business, my name is Shenna Bellows. I am Secretary of State and the chief motor vehicle officer. Thank you for the opportunity to offer our department's perspective in support of L.D. 2244.

As this committee is aware, L.D. 203, Resolve 2023, Chapter 19, Resolve, to Create a Working Group to Study Motor Vehicle Dealer Display Area Licensing Requirements, directed the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles to convene a working group to study issues related to laws and rules regulating motor vehicle dealer display areas and licensing requirements.

The working group thoroughly discussed the existing regulatory framework as it relates to dealer display areas. A consensus was reached that a reduction of the dealer display area requirement would be possible without impacting existing consumer protections and therefore, an amended display area standard was discussed. The dealers represented in the working group felt strongly that there should continue to be a single standard for display areas for all dealers. Alternatively, concerns were raised that a display area requirement that was too small could result in the ability to display vehicles for sale in residential driveways and yards. The group agreed that a 3500-square-foot display area requirement seemed like a reasonable standard, which has resulted in the bill before you today.

Given that this is a unanimous recommendation from the working group, which included representatives from the new and used dealer industries, we hope the committee will also support this proposal.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this proposal, and I am happy to answer any questions or provide any information you need.