20 November 2023

TO: Legislative Services Agency

FROM: Iowa Department of Transportation

RE: Remove Sensitive Information from Printed Vehicle Title – Pre-file Legislative Bill Request

**Background and Current Law:**

Existing Iowa law requires a new certificate of title to show certain information, including “the name and address of the previous owner.” Under federal and state law, the name and address of a person on a motor vehicle record is protected information that cannot be released to someone else without the person’s permission or a valid reason. A majority of other states do not print the prior owner’s name and address on the title.

**Solution:**

Remove the requirement in Iowa Code to have a prior owner’s name and address on the printed title. This change will protect the prior owner’s information, but still allow the DOT and County Treasurer’s to record prior owner information in the electronic system as need for recordkeeping.

**Goal:**

Thwart fraud, and support privacy protections.