



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

RICHMOND

Robin A. Abbott
POST OFFICE BOX 406
Richmond, VIRGINIA 23218

93rd DISTRICT

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:
Finance
Science and Technology

February 25th 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**HOUSE BILL 392 – WATER DAMAGED VEHICLES CARRIED OVER BY
SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

For Immediate Release: February 25th, 2010

Contact: Legislative Assistant Jeremy L. Wallenberg, (415) 238-2705, delrabbott@house.virginia.gov

RICHMOND VA, 5:00pm – Thursday February 25th, 2010 – Today at the General Assembly in the Senate Transportation Committee decided that House Bill 392 will be “Carried Over” until 2011.

The citizens of Virginia should be thankful to the members of the Senate Transportation Committee who this afternoon wisely decided to carry over House Bill 392 relating to disclosure and title-branding of water damaged vehicles. This Bill first appeared in the House, and was vigorously opposed by Delegate Robin Abbott along with countless consumer advocates and auto-safety organizations who all argued since mid-January in opposition to the bill which would raise the existing threshold for disclosure and title-branding of water damage vehicles from \$1000 to \$5000 in Virginia.

In reaching its decision the members of the Senate Transportation Committee called on all stakeholders to sit down at the table and hash out their differences. The approach taken during the genesis of this bill in regards to both bringing all participants to the table of discussion, and to the arbitrary nature of the figures that would determine the non-disclosure policies in informing consumers what they are actually buying, have been weighed and decided upon as piece-meal and too hasty for such a consequential house bill. As the law stands now, the Code of Virginia requires that consumers must be informed of water damage over \$1000.

Backed in support by other House Democrats and a litany of qualified and accredited consumer advocacy organizations, Delegate Abbott and these concerned parties have all heightened the discussion as to the real-life ramifications of such a house bill, in both safety and cost, to citizens of the Commonwealth. As a result of the sagacious decision made by the Senators of the Senate Transportation committee to carry over House Bill 392 until 2011, the people of the Commonwealth of Virginia can rest assured that Virginia will not become the dumping ground of the United States for all water damaged vehicles.

###

Jeremy L. Wallenberg
Legislative Assistant
Delegate Robin Abbott
(O) 804.698.1193
(F) 804.698.6793
(C) 415.238.2705
delrabbott@house.virginia.gov

