HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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This bill applies to liens on personal property and amends the statute that regulates the process of the sale of the property by the lienholder when the debt is left unpaid. The bill creates a new subdivision that provides that when a lienholder is a new or used motor vehicle dealer that dealer can sell the vehicle at wholesale or retail instead of selling the vehicle by public auction which is what is required currently under the law. The bill does require the dealer to contact the owner at their last known address, including the address on the title if it is different, and to provide a notice with information related to the sale and the total amount owed on the vehicle, as well as the owners ability to reclaim the vehicle. The effective date for this section is August 1, 2014, and applies to vehicles in the possession of a licensed dealer on or after that date.