

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SB 5244

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Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Concerning the means of communication between a buyer or lessee and an auto dealer during the "bushing" period.

**Sponsors:** Senators O'Ban, Hobbs, Takko and Wilson.

**Senate Committee on Transportation**  
**House Committee on Business & Financial Services**

**Background:** Bushing is the four-day period that occurs after the buyer or lessee signs a sales contract, lease, or financing of a motor vehicle in which the auto dealer informs the buyer or lessee that they unconditionally accept the terms of the contract or lease or they reject it. These four working days are provided to the dealer to find financing and finalize the sale or lease and are exclusive of Saturday, Sunday, or a legal holiday. If an auto dealer contacts the buyer or lessee during the bushing period by email, the dealer must also transmit the communication by any additional means.

**Summary:** The ways in which an auto dealer may inform a buyer or lessee during the bushing period of the acceptance or rejection of a contract, lease, or financing are specifically identified and include the following:

- an email message to the buyer's or lessee's supplied email address;
- a phone call;
- a voice message or a text message to a phone number provided by the buyer or lessee;
- in-person oral communication;
- a letter by first-class mail if the buyer or lessee expresses that as a preference or does not provide an email and a phone number able to receive free text messages; or
- by another means agreed to by the buyer or lessee or approved by the Department of Licensing.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

Senate	49	0
House	97	0

**Effective:** July 23, 2017

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*