

(1) buyers of motor vehicles rely heavily on the odometer reading as an index of the condition and value of a vehicle;

(2) buyers are entitled to rely on the odometer reading as an accurate indication of the mileage of the vehicle;

(3) an accurate indication of the mileage assists a buyer in deciding on the safety and reliability of the vehicle; and

(4) motor vehicles move in, or affect, interstate and foreign commerce.

(b) **PURPOSES.**—The purposes of this chapter are—

(1) to prohibit tampering with motor vehicle odometers; and

(2) to provide safeguards to protect purchasers in the sale of motor vehicles with altered or reset odometers.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1048.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
32701(a) .....	15:1981 (1st sentence).	Oct. 20, 1972, Pub. L. 92-513, §401, 86 Stat. 961.
32701(b) .....	15:1981 (last sentence).	

§ 32702. Definitions

In this chapter—

(1) “auction company” means a person taking possession of a motor vehicle owned by another to sell at an auction.

(2) “dealer” means a person that sold at least 5 motor vehicles during the prior 12 months to buyers that in good faith bought the vehicles other than for resale.

(3) “distributor” means a person that sold at least 5 motor vehicles during the prior 12 months for resale.

(4) “leased motor vehicle” means a motor vehicle leased to a person for at least 4 months by a lessor that leased at least 5 vehicles during the prior 12 months.

(5) “odometer” means an instrument or system of components for measuring and recording the distance a motor vehicle is driven, but does not include an auxiliary instrument or system of components designed to be reset by the operator of the vehicle to record mileage of a trip.

(6) “repair” and “replace” mean to restore to a sound working condition by replacing any part of an odometer or by correcting any inoperative part of an odometer.

(7) “title” means the certificate of title or other document issued by the State indicating ownership.

(8) “transfer” means to change ownership by sale, gift, or any other means.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1048; Pub. L. 104-287, §5(61), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3394; Pub. L. 112-141, div. C, title I, §31205(a), July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 760.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES  
PUB. L. 103-272

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
32702(1) .....	15:1982(8).	Oct. 20, 1972, Pub. L. 92-513, 86 Stat. 947, §402(6)-(8); added Oct. 28, 1986, Pub. L. 99-579, §2(b), 100 Stat. 3310.
32702(2) .....	15:1982(1).	Oct. 20, 1972, Pub. L. 92-513, 86 Stat. 947, §402(1), (2); added July 14, 1976, Pub. L. 94-364, §401(2), 90 Stat. 983.
32702(3) .....	15:1982(2).	
32702(4) .....	15:1982(7).	
32702(5) .....	15:1982(3).	Oct. 20, 1972, Pub. L. 92-513, §402(3)-(5), 86 Stat. 961; July 14, 1976, Pub. L. 94-364, §401(1), 90 Stat. 983.
32702(6) .....	15:1982(4).	
32702(7) .....	15:1982(6).	
32702(8) .....	15:1982(5).	

In clause (1), the words “(whether through consignment or bailment or through any other arrangement)” and “such motor vehicle” are omitted as surplus.

In clause (4), the words “a term of” are omitted as surplus.

In clause (5), the words “the distance a motor vehicle is driven” are substituted for “the actual distance a motor vehicle travels while in operation” for clarity and to eliminate unnecessary words.

PUB. L. 104-287

This amends 49:32702(8) and 32705 to clarify the restatement of 15:1982(5) and 1988 by section 1 of the Act of July 5, 1994 (Public Law 103-272, 108 Stat. 1049).

AMENDMENTS

2012—Par. (5). Pub. L. 112-141, which directed insertion of “or system of components” after “instrument”, was executed by making the insertion after “instrument” both places it appeared.

1996—Par. (8). Pub. L. 104-287 inserted “any” after “or”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2012 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 112-141 effective Oct. 1, 2012, see section 3(a) of Pub. L. 112-141, set out as an Effective and Termination Dates of 2012 Amendment note under section 101 of Title 23, Highways.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 104-287 effective July 5, 1994, see section 8(1) of Pub. L. 104-287, set out as a note under section 5303 of this title.

§ 32703. Preventing tampering

A person may not—

(1) advertise for sale, sell, use, install, or have installed, a device that makes an odometer of a motor vehicle register a mileage different from the mileage the vehicle was driven, as registered by the odometer within the designed tolerance of the manufacturer of the odometer;

(2) disconnect, reset, alter, or have disconnected, reset, or altered, an odometer of a motor vehicle intending to change the mileage registered by the odometer;

(3) with intent to defraud, operate a motor vehicle on a street, road, or highway if the person knows that the odometer of the vehicle is disconnected or not operating; or

(4) conspire to violate this section or section 32704 or 32705 of this title.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1049; Pub. L. 103-429, §6(33), Oct. 31, 1994, 108 Stat. 4380.)