

Bill 3, Cutting Red Tape for Motor Vehicle Dealers Act, 2016

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Issue

Car dealerships lose productivity and manpower every time they are required to have their paperwork processed for vehicles sold or leased. In certain cases, there is no concierge service for Car Dealerships and even worse, some Service Ontario location only allow two transactions processed at one time. These delays are at a significant cost to the car dealerships and may result in unnecessary delays for the consumer.

Background

Bill 3 was before the Ontario Legislature in 2015 – then known as Bill 152. The Ontario Legislature was prorogued in 2016 and the legislation, which had strong bipartisan support, never made it to the Standing Committee after passing 2nd reading. If passed, Bill 3 would eliminate the outdated and unnecessary requirement for auto dealers to physically transport paperwork back and forth to a Service Ontario location upon completion of a sale or lease.

Instead, auto dealers could register vehicles online, from their dealership. This digitization of the vehicle sales process will cut red tape, and save dealers time and money. Furthermore, consumers would be able to take possession of their newly purchased vehicle minutes after signing on the dotted line – rather than wait hours or days and make another trip to the dealership to pick up their new vehicle.

Quebec has offered digital vehicle registrations to its new car dealers since 2002 and New York State dealers have had a similar program since the mid-1990s. New Brunswick, P.E.I., Newfoundland and Labrador, Michigan and a number of other U.S. states also provide this service.

Ontario's auto sector and consumers would greatly benefit from a digital, efficient and secure vehicle sales process while allowing them to serve their customers better. By implementing Bill 3, Ontario will follow through on its 2016 Budget statement that, "To meet the expectations of the public, government digital services must mirror the simplicity and effectiveness Ontarians have experienced using private-sector digital services. This does not simply mean putting existing processes online; it means fundamentally rethinking how government programs and services are delivered in Ontario."

Recommendations

The Ontario Chamber of Commerce urges the Government of Ontario to:

1. Pass and Implement the Bill 3 legislation as soon as possible.