



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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BROADCAST NEWS SERVICE 73-168

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The U.S. Department of Transportation Broadcast News Service for Thursday, August 23 has part one of a four part special series for consumers on the new odometer laws and a story on the interstate highway system.

First, the consumer has a high level of protection when he buys a new or used car under the new, anti-tampering odometer law. Ann Uccello, Director of the Office of Consumer Affairs, U.S. Department of Transportation, comments on its meaning:

"Under the law which became effective this year, it's illegal to tamper with an odometer in order to hide the real mileage traveled by the vehicle. It's also now a requirement that anyone who sells a motor vehicle must give the buyer a written, signed statement - a disclosure statement - containing all the seller knows to be true -- or untrue -- about the vehicle's odometer reading and its actual mileage. (Large trucks, cars 25 years old or older, and new cars sold between dealers are excepted from the disclosure requirement.) The legislation is part of the Motor Vehicle Information and Cost Savings Act of 1973 and applies to both new and used cars, to all private citizens, dealers, auctioneers, lessees -- anyone who as the legal owner of a vehicle, transfers or sells it to someone else."

Next, a story on the progress on the Interstate System.

"Transportation Secretary Claude Brinegar said today that work has either been completed or is underway on about 99% of the 42,500 mile Interstate Highway System. 82% of the system is now in use. Secretary Brinegar described the Interstate System as the 'safest and best engineered highway network in the world.'"

This has been the Transportation News Report. Tomorrow, part two of the special consumer series on the odometer law.

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