

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 12, 2007

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 19, 2007

SENATE BILL

No. 970

Introduced by Senator Ridley-Thomas

February 23, 2007

An act to add Chapter 16 (commencing with Section 13800) to Division 5 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to rental vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 970, as amended, Ridley-Thomas. Rental vehicles.

Existing law does not regulate the use of rental vehicle fuel gauges as a measuring instrument in rental vehicle transactions.

This bill would provide that a fuel gauge installed in a motor vehicle by the motor vehicle manufacturer may be used in a rental transaction to calculate an optional charge for fueling a rental vehicle, as specified.

~~Existing law requires the county sealer to inspect, try, and test all instruments and devices used for weighing or for measurements in commercial transactions, and may charge a fee therefor established by the board of supervisors.~~

~~This bill would provide that the use of a fuel gauge in calculating an optional charge for fueling the rental vehicle under specified circumstances does not qualify as a use for commercial purposes.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 16 (commencing with Section 13800)
2 is added to Division 5 of the Business and Professions Code, to
3 read:

4
5 CHAPTER 16. RENTAL VEHICLES

6
7 13800. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
8 division, a rental vehicle’s fuel gauge installed by the vehicle’s
9 manufacturer may be used in a rental transaction by a rental
10 company to calculate an optional charge for fueling when any of
11 the following occurs:

12 (1) The customer could have avoided incurring the charge by
13 returning the rental vehicle with the same amount of fuel as was
14 in the fuel tank at the commencement of the rental.

15 (2) The customer chose to purchase the amount of fuel inside
16 the fuel tank at the commencement of the rental.

17 ~~(b) For the purposes of this division, the use of a fuel gauge in~~
18 ~~calculating an optional charge for fueling the rental vehicle~~
19 ~~pursuant to subdivision (a) does not qualify as a use for commercial~~
20 ~~purposes.~~

21 *(b) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to preclude a*
22 *rental company from offering additional fueling options to*
23 *customers besides those described in subdivision (a).*