LEGISLATION SPONSORED / SPEARHEADED BY CARS SINCE 1998.

ENACTED IN CALIFORNIA

- AB 2410 -- 1998, authored by Assembly Majority Leader Kevin Shelley -- prohibits auto manufacturers from imposing "gag" agreements upon lemon owners as a condition of repurchasing lemon vehicles -- landmark legislation -- CA remains the only state in the US that has such a law to protect lemon owners' free speech rights and improve protections against the fraudulent resales of seriously defective lemon cars (aka "lemon laundering")
- SB 1718 -- 2000, authored by Sen. Byron Sher -- expands CA's lemon law to include vehicles purchased for business use, providing protections for individual entrepreneurs, self-employed people, and owners of small businesses that own up to 5 vehicles. Reduces from 4 to 2 the number of repair attempts to trigger the lemon law presumption, when a vehicle has a life-threatening safety defect.
- SB 1458 -- 2002, authored by Sen. Gloria Romero -- raises the auto dealer bond requirement in order for dealers to obtain a license to do business in CA, from \$10,000 to \$50,000
- SB 508 -- 2003, authored by Sen. Martha Escutia -- helps curb discriminatory auto lending by requiring dealers to maintain key records of financial transactions for at least 7 years, making it possible for law enforcement authorities and victims of discriminatory lending practices to identify patterns / disparities
- AB 68 -- 2005, authored by Assemblymember Cindy Montanez -- California's Car Buyers Bill of Rights -- this bill was not sponsored by CARS, but it was introduced in response to a more pro-consumer initiative drafted by CARS, and CARS played the leading role in working to strengthen it as much as possible for car buyers. The first version was vetoed by then-Governor Schwarzenegger, but the subsequent measure was signed into law, after labor unions gathered signatures on the petitions to place the stronger measure on the ballot.
- SB 234 -- 2007, authored by Sen. Ellen Corbett -- expands protection under California's auto lemon law to include members of the Armed Forces, regardless where they purchased their lemon vehicles -- landmark measure -- CA remains the only state with such a provision -- passed unanimously in both houses of the legislature and was signed into law by then-Gov Schwarzenegger

- AB 647 -- 2009, authored by Assemblymember Mariko Yamada -- requires the California DMV to comply with the federal Anti-Car Theft Act and allow public access to the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System, established at the U.S. Department of Justice -- passed unanimously in both houses of the legislature and was signed into law by then-Gov. Schwarzenegger, despite last-minute opposition from the California DMV.
- SB 95 -- 2009, authored by Sen. Ellen Corbett -- requires auto dealers to tender payment on liens before they can sell vehicles that are traded in with negative equity / an outstanding lien (or, if the dealer retains the vehicle, within 21 days), was enacted with widespread bi-partisan support