

**Opinion No. 379****Motor Vehicles — Registration — Evidence of Title**

HELD: The registrar of motor vehicles may require ample and satisfactory evidence of good title from any applicant before registering any motor vehicle.

November 3, 1933

You submit the following: "So far as we have been able to determine, none of the Motor Vehicle Laws of this State require an applicant to furnish any prior proof of ownership of the car which they are attempting to register. Consequently, it would seem that a great many cars could, or would be registered in this State by persons not having a legal right to these vehicles. \* \* \* We would thank you to furnish us an opinion as to whether or not subsection five, Section 1759, page 314, Laws of 1933, would permit us to require for all vehicles registered for the first time in this State, proof of ownership, either by certificate of title or by a notarized bill of sale."

Sections 2, 3 and 4 of Chapter 113, Laws of 1925, and other parts of that Act, cover the matter quite fully. Said Chapter 113 amended part of Section 1759, R. C. M. 1921. Section 1759 was amended in 1929, 1931 and 1933 and each time it was amended the amending act, referred to Chapter 113, Laws of 1925. Such references cause some confusion, but that part of Chapter 113 relating to the certificate of title of motor vehicles has not been amended or repealed. It remains the law on that subject, and is broad enough to enable you to require ample and satisfactory evidence of good title in any applicant before you are required to register any motor vehicle.