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WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 136 of the Rules of Procedure

on combating mileage fraud in the second-hand car market

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Written declaration, under Rule 136 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, on combating mileage fraud in the second-hand car market¹

1. Buying a car is one of the most important investments consumers make. Mileage fraud is unfortunately a common practice in second-hand car sales. Each year, citizens throughout the EU are overcharged by billions of euros for cars whose mileage counters have been manipulated. Higher maintenance costs ensue and road safety is jeopardised.
2. In line with Cars 2020 (2013/2062(INI)), Directive 2014/45/EU on periodic roadworthiness tests will make the manipulation of odometers a punishable offence in all Member States. It will also make the recording of odometer readings a routine part of tests so that they can be consulted during subsequent inspections.
3. Fraudsters, however, still have many possible ways of manipulating odometers. Action is urgently required. Since a high proportion of used cars are traded across borders in the internal market, anti-fraud measures must take place at EU level or at least be coordinated among Member States. Some countries, notably Belgium and the Netherlands, have taken initiatives which could inspire EU-wide action.
4. The Commission is called upon to consider ways of ensuring that consumers have the certainty they rightfully expect when purchasing a vehicle.
5. This declaration, together with the names of the signatories, is forwarded to the Council and the Commission.

¹ Under Rule 136(4) and (5) of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, where a declaration is signed by a majority of Parliament's component Members, it is published in the minutes with the names of its signatories and forwarded to the addressees, without however binding Parliament.