



Oregon

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Governors Advisory Committee on DUII

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To: Health Care Committee

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From: Teresa Douglas, Governor's Advisory Committee on DUII, Alcohol
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Subject: HB 4011

Introduction

This Bill authorizes the Department of Transportation to require that offenders who are convicted of driving while under influence of intoxicants submit proof of completing the required treatment before being allowed to reinstate their driving privileges.

Background

For many years, DUII conviction offenders have been required to complete treatment as a part of their court requirements. There are many offenders that do not live in Oregon, but commit their crime here. Some commit their crime here and then move out of State for whatever reason. If an offender moves or lives out of State, many times they are placed on Bench Probation with no supervision. If there is no accountability for Oregon's DUII treatment requirements, many of these offenders will likely never enroll in treatment or will do the least amount of treatment possible, instead of what Oregon offenders are required to complete. As an Alcohol and Drug Evaluation Specialist, I am required to screen, refer and monitor compliance with Oregon's DUII treatment requirements on all DUII convictions. Due to the fact that every State is different in how they treat their intoxicated drivers, this can be a difficult and complicated process. In some States, offenders are allowed to do an alcohol information school which provides no therapy. In California, for example, they do not do urine testing as a part of their treatment programs. If we expect DUII offenders to change their behavior, they must be given the opportunity to learn from their treatment experience and be held accountable for their behavior.

What the Bill Does

This Bill will ensure that all DUII offenders either complete the treatment required by Oregon or they will not be allowed to operate a motor vehicle legally, until they comply. This is especially important for those offenders who move out of State and have little to no accountability. DUII offenders should not be allowed to avoid compliance with Oregon's treatment requirements by moving out of state.

Summary

It is well known that substance abuse treatment does work and provides a benefit to both the offender and the community. Unfortunately, for some offenders it may require more than one treatment episode. This Bill will provide accountability for the offender and benefit the community by requiring consistency in how DUII laws are administered. Those that refuse to comply with the DUII laws will not benefit from the privilege of legally operating a motor vehicle, until they do comply. This Bill is essential for Oregon and the continued fight against intoxicated driving. The GAC on DUII respectfully request that this Bill be passed to the floor with a do pass recommendation.

