74th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2007 Regular Session MEASURE: SB 523 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY CARRIER: Rep. Gilliam

House Committee on Consumer Protection

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass **Vote:** 5 - 0 - 2

Yeas: Bonamici, Gilliam, Girod, Riley, Holvey

Nays: 0

Exc.: Galizio, Nelson

Prepared By: Steve Dixon, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/21, 5/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires person adjusting the claim on behalf of the insurance company to inform consumers of their rights to get their car repaired at the shop of their choosing before recommending a certain repair shop. Requires written notice to be sent to consumer within three days if consumer chooses the recommended repair shop. Prescribes notice.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Current statute and the need for consumer notification
- · Benefits and problems with insurer-preferred shops
- · Effects of steering consumers to preferred shops of competitors
- How the collision repair industry operates generally

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No Amendment.

BACKGROUND: ORS 746.280 currently prohibits an insurance company from requiring that a particular repair shop make repairs in order to recover funds from a motor vehicle insurance policy. SB 523 A requires that the prohibition be stated prior to an insurer giving a recommendation and that the prohibition be given to the consumer in writing within three days if the consumer accepts the insurer's recommendation.