
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB613-A WITH AMENDMENTS

Before the House Transportation and Economic Development Committee on
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Chair Read and members of the Committee:

The Oregon Vehicle Dealers Association is a trade association with more than 500 motor vehicle dealer members. OVDA members include franchised new vehicle dealers, independent dealers, motorcycle dealers and boat dealers. OVDA is the largest association of licensed motor vehicle dealers in Oregon.

What is the current law?

Oregon's law requiring most motor vehicle dealers to participate in ongoing continuing education classes is experiencing some "growing pains". Currently, dealers are required to have at least fifteen hours of continuing education to renew their three-year license (or five hours per year). The statute requires education providers to give students a test. However, there are no statutory guidelines on the test. Further, while the Oregon Dealer Advisory Committee (ODAC) is vested with the authority to approve education providers, they do not have statutory authority to NOT approve a provider. Further, once a provider has been approved it is a de facto life-time approval as the statute lists no expiration on the approval and does not require the approval to be periodically renewed by ODAC.

What will SB 613-A do?

This industry-sponsored and industry-supported bill will make five changes to the current motor vehicle dealer education statutes:

- (1) It reduces the number of continuing education hours required from five per year to four per year (twelve in a three-year license cycle);
- (2) It requires education providers to administer a test of not less than ten questions for each hour of continuing education. The student must achieve seventy percent to pass the test;
- (3) It prohibits a student from receiving credit for taking the same class more than once;
- (4) It provides ODAC with the authority to approve or deny approval for an education provider; and
- (5) It establishes a two-year expiration for education provider approvals, thus requiring providers to reapply for approval every two years.

What is the purpose of the amendment

The amendment will remove the proposed requirement that ODAC approve all tests as part of the education program approval process. Tests change over time, even in a two-year cycle, because the laws and rules change. We do not want to "lock down" tests administered by education providers for two years.

Oregon Vehicle Dealers Association

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Who supports the bill?

This is a consensus bill and is the work-product of many hours by the following groups which support it:

Northwest Auto Trades Association
Oregon Independent Auto Dealers Association
Oregon Vehicle Dealers Association
Oregon Tow Truck Association

Is there opposition?

There is no known opposition.

***Oregon Dealers urge the committee to adopt the amendments and give the bill a do pass recommendation.
Thank you.***