

**REVENUE: No revenue impact**

**FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued**

---

<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
<b>Vote:</b>	9 - 0 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Doherty, Johnson, Keny-Guyer, Lively, Richardson, Smith, Thatcher, Vega Pederson, Holvey
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Bob Estabrook, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	3/12, 3/14, 4/11, 4/16

---

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Limits charge for towing motor vehicle without prior consent or authorization of owner or operator to amounts set by cities with population of 15,000 or more and all counties. Authorizes city or county to issue licenses and collect fee from applicants. Requires tower to maintain license from city or county. Requires cities with population of 15,000 or more and all counties to establish maximum rates for towing and related services and to establish process for receiving and responding to complaints. Makes provisions operative on January 1, 2014. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Specific consumer experience
- Impact of towing charges on low-income Oregonians
- Rate regulation practices in other states
- Potential pre-emption of local ordinances by state action
- Differences between contract towing and private property impound (PPI) towing
- Potential complexity of setting statewide rates
- History of City of Portland's regulation and complaint tracking

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Replaces the original measure.

**BACKGROUND:** The City of Portland has regulated rates for private party impound (PPI) towing since 2003, and the City of Gresham adopted a similar ordinance in 2011. Senate Bill 116 in 2007 and House Bill 2578 in 2009 established statewide limitations on towing practices and require disclosure of tower's rates to the owner or operator of towed vehicle, but the measures did not specify a maximum rate for towing or related services.

House Bill 3159 A requires cities with population of 15,000 or more and all counties to establish maximum rates for towing and related services and to establish processes for receiving and responding to complaints. The measure requires towers towing vehicles without prior authorization or consent to comply with maximum rates and maintain licensure in the municipalities where they tow vehicles.