

February 12, 2015

Chair Fagan and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Government Effectiveness Committee:

I am providing testimony on behalf of the Oregon Auto Dealers Association in opposition to HB 2496 as drafted.

HB 2496 has four Provisions:

1. A vehicle repair shop shall display a sign providing the consumer information concerning written estimates for repairs, including invoice information, and also note the consumer is entitled to receive any parts replaced during a repair.
2. Provide a check box or similar designation for the consumer to instruct the repair shop to return any parts or components.
3. List certain information about the vehicle.
4. A separate authorization regarding an estimate of parts and labor costs, including the time to perform repairs.

If you are having trouble sleeping, I suggest a review of ORS 646A, which pertains in large part to consumer protections regarding motor vehicle sales and repairs.

ORSA 646A.482, which is being amended in HB 2496, provides requirements for estimates before repair work begins, and ORS 464A.486 prohibits repair actions if estimates exceed \$200, with consumer's approval. In other words, protections already in statute.

If you have recently purchased a vehicle you know there is a myriad of documents to sign, some for the protection of the buyer and others for the seller. HB 2496 adds more requirements.

If HB 2496 is to move forward, there should be an amendment at a minimum to clarify how parts and components are handled under a recall and warranty activity. In many cases, the manufacturer will require the dealer to provide the decommissioned part(s) back to the manufacturer.

Also, there will be issues as to how returned parts are disposed.

  
Mike Dewey