
OREGON MOTOR VEHICLE DEALERS SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 2263

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Chair McKeown and members of the Transportation Committee:

The Oregon Vehicle Dealers Association represents nearly 600 independent business owners across the state of Oregon, making OVDA the largest auto dealer trade association in Oregon as far as we know. These dealers are primarily small businesses. On their behalf, OVDA monitors the Legislature and regulatory agencies with authority over motor vehicle dealers

The Business Regulation division of the Department of Motor Vehicles has many statutory responsibilities related to motor vehicle dealers, tow truck drivers, auto recyclers and even billboards. When it comes to motor vehicle dealers, DMV has three primary functions:

- (1) Investigate dealer applicants prior to issuing a certificate to be a motor vehicle dealer, and issue renewals every three years;
- (2) Ensure certified motor vehicle dealers are complying with applicable laws and completing title and registration paperwork in a timely manner on behalf of vehicle purchasers; and
- (3) Investigate and deter the sale of motor vehicles by persons not certified to act as a motor vehicle dealer.

However, nothing in statute directs the Business Regulation Division of DMV on how to prioritize their limited resources among these three priorities. Certainly issuing certifications in a timely manner is a key to the industry. Beyond that, OVDA believes DMV investigators should focus their attention on uncertified dealers, commonly called "curbers" or "curbstoners". People selling motor vehicles outside of the regulatory structure created by the state victimizes innocent purchasers, reduces revenue to DMV and damages legal commerce in this state.

We ask the Legislative Assembly to provide clear direction to the DMV that finding uncertified dealers should be the division's highest investigative priority in order to protect the motoring public.

Thank you for your interest in this important consumer protection bill. I am happy to answer any questions.

Oregon Vehicle Dealers Association

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