



PETER COURTNEY  
President of the Senate

**House Judiciary Committee**

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*TESTIMONY BY SENATOR PETER COURTNEY  
SUPPORTING SB 614  
APRIL 27, 2015*

Chair Jeff Barker, House Committee on Judiciary, thank you for hearing my testimony today.

My name is Peter Courtney. I am a State Senator. I live in NE Salem.

I'm here today supporting Senate Bill 614. This measure allows the law enforcement community to intervene when an animal is suffering in a motor vehicle.

Cars heat up in the sun. I know Oregonians tend to forget this during our winter months. But the fact is that, according to a Stanford study, a car in as low as 72 degree weather will heat up on average of 40 degrees in an hour. 80% of that increase happens within the first 30 minutes. That means on a 72 degree day, the inside of a car can reach 104 degrees within 30 minutes<sup>1</sup>.

A dog's body temperature is between 101 and 102.5. It's obvious that is even a short time leaving a dog in a car can become a life threatening situation, fast.

Law enforcement should be able to intervene when they come across these situations. This is a common sense bill. I'd like to thank Senator Knopp for bringing it to me. I'd ask you to join me in saving the lives of animals across Oregon.

Thank you, Chair Barker, members of the Judiciary Committee for hearing my testimony today.

<sup>1</sup><http://med.stanford.edu/news/all-news/2005/07/parked-cars-get-dangerously-hot-even-on-cool-days-stanford-study-finds.html>