



March 19, 2019

The Honorable Jeff Barker
House Committee on Business & Labor
900 Court Street NE
Salem OR 97301

RE: HB 3001 - Redefining peer-to-peer vehicle sharing
OPPOSE

Dear Chair Barker and Members of the Committee:

Internet Association (IA) appreciates the opportunity express our **OPPOSITION** to **HB 3001**, regarding peer-to-peer vehicle sharing. IA has concerns with HB 3001 as currently drafted and respectfully requests that you hold the bill in committee.

IA represents more than 40 of the world's leading internet companies, and advances public policy solutions that foster innovation, promote economic growth, and empower people through the free and open internet.

HB 3001 attempts to treat Personal Vehicle Sharing Programs (PVSP) under Oregon law the same as rental car companies, subjecting them to the same fees, taxes, and rules as rental car companies. However, peer-to-peer vehicle sharing is different in many important ways, including the fact that rental car companies own and maintain their own fleets of vehicles, while vehicle sharing platforms do not.

It is unfair to subject the vibrant Oregon community of PVSP hosts to the same rules and requirements as car rental companies, and would not amount to any new revenues for the state. Owners who share their car under PVSPs make the majority of the money, and are responsible to pay income taxes on their earnings. Thus, beneficial PVSPs are not a serious source of missed revenue for the State.

Meanwhile, we understand the Port of Portland recently asked peer-to-peer vehicle sharing platforms to obtain car rental permits. First, these platforms are not car rental companies and should not be treated as such. Second, PVSP facilitators have responded to the Port of Portland that they are willing to work with the Port to develop a reasonable PVSP permit instead of a car rental permit. PVSP facilitators are willing to negotiate a permit on behalf of their hosts that meets the needs of the Port but that is also tailored to PVSPs and reflective of how they operate.

Peer-to-peer vehicle sharing offers car owners the chance to earn a little extra money at their convenience rather than having what is often their most expensive asset -- their car -- sit unused. That extra income could allow them the opportunity to pay off a car loan quicker, take a vacation they may not otherwise be able to, or simply save for a rainy day.

IA believes HB 3001 unfairly targets peer-to-peer vehicle sharing platforms based on the faulty premises that these platforms are akin to traditional rental car companies and that beneficial peer-to-peer vehicle sharing is not currently providing sufficient revenues to the State of Oregon. As a result, this measure would end up stifling this beneficial activity and the opportunity for Oregon families



to continue to earn a little extra income from an otherwise idle asset.

For these reasons and more, IA respectfully requests that you **OPPOSE HB 3001** and hold it in committee. Redefining PVSPs does not make policy sense and would be disruptive to the platforms, hosts, and consumers who benefit from the service. Should you have any questions please contact me at rose@internetassociation.org or 206-326-0712.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rose Feliciano', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Rose Feliciano
Director, State Government Affairs, Northwest Region