

HB 3172 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Transportation

Prepared By: Alexa Diaz

Meeting Dates: 4/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Reduces required notice period for towing vehicles on private property.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon law authorizes owners of private property, such as apartment complexes and businesses, to have a towing company remove abandoned vehicles if the owner places a notice on the abandoned vehicle warning the vehicle will be towed if not removed; notice is placed 72 hours before the vehicle is removed; and the owner of the property signs a form with vehicle and property information. Unauthorized parking includes parking on private property without permission of the owner of the property, regardless of visible signs prohibiting or restricting parking in the area. Towing companies are immune from civil liability for towing the vehicle if all conditions are met and the tower is entitled to a lien on the towed vehicle. The Oregon Department of Justice advises owners of vehicles who have had their vehicles towed to locate their vehicle, recover their vehicle from the towing company, and pay the impounding fee. Vehicle owners may also retrieve urgently needed personal property such as prescription medication, wallet, and purse from the towing company.

House Bill 3172 reduces the notice period for towing vehicles from 72 hours to 24 hours.