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**OREGON MOTOR VEHICLE DEALERS SUPPORT SENATE BILL 113-B**

**Before the House Committee on Rules / June 13, 2019**

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Chair Holvey and members of the Rules Committee:

The Oregon Vehicle Dealer Association represents nearly 600 businesses across the state of Oregon, making OVDA the largest auto dealer trade association in Oregon. Oregon law requires anyone who buys and sells motor vehicles for profit to be certified as a motor vehicle dealer by the Business Regulation office at DMV. Even if a person sells only one vehicle for income, they are required by law to be certified. Dealers are primarily small businesses. On their behalf, OVDA monitors the Legislature and any regulatory agencies with authority over motor vehicle dealers.

SB113-B is the product of a work group chaired by Senator Chuck Riley. It included dealers, consumer protection lawyers, the Department of Justice and DMV Business Regulation.

It is rare -- perhaps a fraction of one percent -- but some motor vehicle purchasers do not receive their title and registration in a timely manner. And in these cases, this can occur because the purchase was made from an unscrupulous dealer who is intentionally violating the law. In these cases, legitimate dealers support enforcement efforts to ensure purchasers receive the vehicle for which they have already made payment. As a result, we support Senate Bill 113-B, which will ensure attorneys fees to a prevailing plaintiff who successfully sues a vehicle dealer for not providing a title.

Oregon statutes already provide a "safe harbor" for dealers when a delay in supplying a title is out of their control. And, SB113-B does not penalize legitimate dealers with additional costs or unnecessary regulation when they are already following the law.

Thank you for considering this important bill. I am happy to answer any questions.