

Testimony before the House Business and Labor Committee

In support of HB 2818

February 6, 2023

Chair Holvey and Members of the Committee:

My name is Young Walgenkim. I am an attorney here in Salem representing consumers who have been wronged by car dealers. I am testifying in support of HB 2818, which is designed to help consumer who fall victim to not receiving titles to vehicles they have purchased from out of state dealers.

The Problem

Many consumers in Oregon who have purchased vehicles from national and online car dealers operating outside of Oregon have reported not receiving their titles on time. I have personally heard from many consumers who have waited over 9 months and still have not received the title, registration, and plates to the vehicles they have purchased and paid for. These dealers are not licensed in Oregon, which makes it difficult to seek remedies in Oregon courts. Furthermore, because they are not licensed in Oregon, our DMV will not regulate these activities.

The Solution

The problem arises because these out of state dealers who are not licensed in Oregon sell cars to Oregon consumers and charge a fee to the consumer to submit the application for title and registration on their behalf. Currently, Oregon law only allows those who are designated as agents of the DMV to submit paperwork on another person's behalf. When a car dealer receives an Oregon license to sell cars, they also obtain the status of DMV's agent to process titles for another person. When these dealers who are not licensed in Oregon charge consumers fees to submit title and registration applications on their behalf, they are violating Oregon law by attempting to act as agents of the DMV without being agents.

What HB 2818 does is it allows the consumer to unwind the deal and receive a full refund when they have been sold a car by a dealer who falsely claims to be an agent of the DMV.

Thank you for your consideration of HB 2818.

Young Walgenkim
Hanson & Walgenkim, LLC