

SB 372 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Business and General Government

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Meeting Dates: 2/21, 4/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires tower to provide notice to owner and lienholder of vehicle no later than one business day after towing vehicle. Reduces amount of lien claimed if notice requirement not satisfied. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Impact of updated Oregon Department of Transportation record system on reasonable notice timeframe
- Nature of small towing business and current practices for providing notice to lienholders
- Approximately 95 percent of vehicles towed have a value less than \$2,500 and are less likely to have a lienholder

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3 Replaces requirement to provide notice to owner and lienholder of vehicle no later than one business day after towing vehicle with requirement to provide notice to owner and lienholder within three calendar days, or one calendar day if lienholder's e-mail is available in an electronic portal established by the Department of Transportation.

BACKGROUND:

Current statute allows vehicles left or parked without authorization on private property, parked illegally, or otherwise taken into custody to be towed. Towers are required to give notice to the owner and lienholder within 15 or 20 days of storing the vehicle, depending on the nature of the violation that triggered the tow. The tower may place a lien on a towed vehicle in order to recover just and reasonable charges associated with towing and storing the vehicle. Senate Bill 372 reduces the notice requirement from 15 or 20 days to the next business day. The measure also reduces the amount of the lien that a tower can claim when the tower fails to comply with the notice requirements.