

Submitter: Viana Ramirez Mendoza

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Business and Labor

Measure: HB2801

Chair Holvey and Members of the Committee:

My name is Viana Ramirez Mendoza, a consumer from Salem, Oregon. I am testifying in support of HB 2801, because I was a victim to this yo yo practice by a car dealer here in Salem.

In September of 2022, I went to a car lot in Salem to buy a truck. The salesman said I was approved for 29.99% financing. The salesman at the car lot told me that my financing was final and everything was ready to go. I put \$3000 down and they let me drive home in the truck.

A month later, I received a call from a bank saying they just received my loan application and that I needed to provide more information. I was surprised I was hearing from a finance company because the dealer told me that my financing was already approved on the day of purchase. I provided the finance company with the information, and I thought that took care of everything.

About a week later, I came out of my home and found my truck missing. It turns out the dealer had repossessed my car without telling me anything was wrong. When I called the dealer, they told me my loan wasn't approved, and I needed to come in and sign new paperwork and give them another \$2,000. I told them I didn't have another \$2,000 to give them, and I just wanted to cancel the deal and get my \$3,000 down payment back. They said they couldn't do that because I signed a contract to purchase the car.

I ended up signing a second contract without having to give them another \$2,000, but that one also ended up failing. After that the dealer refused to give back my \$3,000 down payment. I had to hire a lawyer to get my own \$3,000 back. In total, it has been almost 5 months of the dealer keeping my \$3,000.

I ask that you please support HB 2801 to put an end to car dealers doing this to people. Thank you.

Viana Ramirez Mendoza
Salem, Oregon