



CONSOLIDATED TOWING, INC.

1000 SE 9th St., Bend, OR 97702
541-389-8080 • FAX 541-389-4832

Chairman Lively & members of the Committee. For the record, I'm Michael Wildman & I own Consolidated Towing Inc. located in Bend, Oregon. Our immediate service area is all Central Oregon. On February 12th, I'll have been in business for 37 years.

Last year, we responded to just under 8,000 calls for assistance. I operate 3 facilities with 25 full time employees. My 22 power units consist of 4 light duty Fords, and 18 medium & heavy duty Kenworths. As an example: we towed 34 garbage trucks, 26 school buses, 19 loaded fuel tankers and 14 fire trucks. This was just a portion of the 1,645 heavy duty calls we ran last year. Our Class 8 tow trucks are custom built, with combined gross weight ratings of 186,000 pounds. This allows us to tow loaded combinations of 80,000 to 105,000 pounds legally.

Now with trucking manufacturers navigating 2027 emission regulations, our small niche industry is finding it extremely difficult to acquire equipment. I normally purchase 3 to 4 new units per year.

Now due to the shortage I've been allocated only 2. This will change my amortization schedule from 5 to 7 years, which will increase my fuel and maintenance, and reduce my resale values.

A typical lead time from ordering a unit to delivery on a medium duty unit is now 12 to 14 months. A heavy-duty unit will take upwards of 2 years.

I have been the Treasurer of the National Tow Truck Association for the past 10 years, and I work closely with the towing manufacturers. I can state for a fact: There has not been one heavy duty-capable electric tow truck built to date. I'm asking you to pass HB 3119 as soon as possible.

Michael K. Wildman,
President, CTI

"Central Oregon's Everyday Heroes in *ORANGE* since 1988"
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