



House Committee on Commerce & Consumer Protection

Testimony in Support of HB 3423

Andrea Meyer, Director of Government Relations

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AARP is pleased to support HB 3423. AARP is the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering Americans 50+ to choose how they live as they age. AARP Oregon advocates on issues important to our 500,000 Oregon members with a focus on health security, financial resilience and livable communities.

Auto insurance is essential for everyone who owns a car. HB 3423 updates Oregon law to provide that auto insurance rates are based on factors directly related to driving behavior and risk, not on unrelated personal characteristics such as credit history, sex or gender, or marital status. This ensures a fairer assessment of risk.

1. **Credit History:** Using credit history as a factor in determining auto insurance rates unfairly penalizes individuals who may have faced financial difficulties due to circumstances beyond their control, such as medical emergencies, job loss, or economic downturns. This practice disproportionately impacts older adults who may have limited income and resources.
2. **Gender and Sex:** Setting auto insurance rates based on gender or sex is inherently discriminatory. It perpetuates outdated stereotypes and fails to consider the individual driving behavior and risk profile of each driver. Women, in particular, may face higher rates despite being statistically safer drivers.
3. **Marital Status:** Marital status should not be a determinant of auto insurance rates. Single individuals, including widows and widowers, often face higher premiums simply because of their marital status. This practice is unfair and does not reflect the true risk associated with their driving behavior.

Using non-driving factors can lead to discriminatory practices. By focusing solely on driving-related factors, we can prevent unfair biases and ensure that all drivers are treated equitably.

We urge this committee to pass HB 3423 and finally eliminate discrimination in auto insurance rates.