May 14, 2025

Position on Bills at 2025 Session of Oregon Legislature:



SB 430: Support, but oppose -A7 amendment

The Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN) is a coalition of over 50 local Indivisible groups throughout Oregon that cooperate and amplify their joint efforts to advance important federal and state legislation and engage with elected officials to promote causes for the benefit of all Oregonians.

COIN supports SB 430, which would prohibit a person that offers or sells goods or services online to a resident of Oregon from advertising, displaying or offering a price for the goods or services that does not include all fees or charges that a purchaser must pay to complete a transaction for the goods or services other than:

(a) Taxes or fees that a governmental body imposes on the transaction; or

(b) Reasonable charges that the person actually incurs to ship the goods or provide the services to the purchaser.

Unfortunately, the adopted -3 amendment exempts several types of retail sellers, including broadband internet providers and most financial institutions, under the assumption that the disclosure requirements of federal law would effectively inform consumers. We highly doubt that and particularly doubt that the current federal government will enforce any of those requirements. We would prefer to remove those exemptions from SB 430.

The proposed -A7 amendment would also exempt from disclosure:

"(c) A service fee that is calculated according to distance or a purchaser's selections, except that the person must disclose the service fee prominently before the purchaser agrees to pay for the goods or services."

This is unnecessary, since the adopted -3 amendment already exempts reasonable shipping charges. The purpose of SB 430 is to disclose to the consumer true pricing information as the consumer decides to make a purchase. Waiting until some unspecified later time to disclose "a service fee" (vague) defeats that purpose. The proposed -A7 amendment would open the door to delayed disclosure of just about any fee that the seller wants to ad, since there is no definition of "service" and because any fee can be calculated "according to . . . a purchaser's selections."

The proposed -A7 amendment also removes the requirement that the exemption for

broadband internet access providers depends upon their compliance with applicable federal regulation. The adopted -3 amendment requires that the provider comply both with labeling requirements of 47 CFR 8.2(a) and the disclosure requirements of 47 CFR 64.2401 or 76.310. The proposed -A7 amendment allows the exemption, if the broadband provider complies with only one of those sets of requirements (by changing an "and" to an"or"). No thanks.

Unfortunately, the adopted -3 amendment also removed the requirement that the consumer be allowed to opt out of buying insurance to cover the goods purchased.

Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN)

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