



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Oregon Department of Transportation

Office of Maintenance

800 Airport Road

Salem OR 97301-4798

Telephone (503)-986-3000

FAX (503)-986-3032

DATE: May 20, 2003

TO: Senate Transportation and Economic Development Committee

File Code:

FROM: Doug Tindall
State Maintenance Engineer

SUBJECT: HB 2661 A-Engrossed

Introduction

House Bill 2661-A enables the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to identify vehicles along roadsides that need to be removed, allows ODOT to put a tag on the vehicle to inform the vehicle owner that the vehicle will be removed and allows ODOT to tow the vehicle.

Discussion

In cooperation with the Oregon State Police (OSP), ODOT had been tagging abandoned vehicles along state highways and calling for them to be towed for the past few years. Last summer, OSP discovered that they could not continue to allow ODOT to perform that function. HB 2661-A corrects that situation by explicitly giving ODOT tow authority.

Summary

HB 2661-A restores the practice that had been in place by authorizing ODOT, in addition to the OSP, to tag and call for towing of vehicles along state highways.