



**February
2023**

Industry Update

*News and Information for
Northwest Automotive Trade Association
Members*

Oregon legislative report

NATA lobbyist (since 2006) Darrell Fuller shared this Oregon legislative report at the end of January:

The 82nd Assembly of the Oregon Legislature began on January 9. On day one, 1,814 bills were introduced for consideration. Since then, another 402 were added for a total of 2,216 so far. The Legislature generally considers just under 4,000 bills during the session, which will end in late June.

A handful of those bills could have a direct impact on NATA members. I'll list a few of the "highlights" below. But first, a couple of things to keep in mind.



Do you know who your State Senator and State Representative are in Salem? You can input your address and find out [here](#). Your business location may be represented by a different Senator and Representative, meaning you can have twice the impact. You should know who represents you, and how to reach them during the Legislative Session.

Do you personally know any State Senator or State Representative (even if they don't represent you)? Do you attend the same church? Are you members of the same Rotary Club? Do your kids go to school together, or play on the same team? An established relationship with a legislator can be extremely valuable. If you have that kind of relationship, will you please let me know ASAP? (My contact information is below.)

If you want to testify (in person or virtually) in support or opposition to any proposal at the Capitol, you can learn how by clicking [here](#). If you would like to submit written testimony, you can learn how by clicking [here](#). If you have questions or problems, feel free to contact me.

If you would like to offer your perspective or expertise to NATA on any of the proposals, please send your input to the NATA office by emailing margaret@aboutnata.org.

You can also register to track specific bills so you will know if they are scheduled for action. You can learn more about that process [here](#).

On behalf of NATA, I follow bills that will (or may) have an impact on automotive trades businesses ([click here](#) for a list). I also track bills with a general impact on business in Oregon ([click here](#) for a list). Here is some information on just a couple of the major bills of interest:

[House Bill 2790](#): Directs Department of Transportation to provide two days' notice to vehicle dealers and dismantlers before inspecting records unless department is responding to complaint. This bill was introduced at the request of NATA in the [Joint Transportation Committee](#) (let us know if you know any of the committee members).

[House Bill 3158](#): Imposes excise tax on retail sale of tires, privilege tax for engaging in business of providing nonroad diesel equipment, tax on use in Oregon of nonroad diesel equipment purchased out of state at retail, heavy equipment rental tax on rentals of nonroad diesel equipment, privilege tax on heavy-duty vehicles and license tax on dyed diesel for transfer to Clean Diesel Engine Fund. Increases cap on grants or loans awarded from Clean Diesel Engine Fund for repower of nonroad diesel engine to 50 percent of certified costs. This bill is in the [House Committee on Climate Energy and Environment](#) (let us know if you know any of the committee members).

[Senate Bill 256](#): Prohibits person from knowingly or intentionally manufacturing, importing, distributing, offering for sale, selling or leasing or otherwise transferring, or installing or reinstalling counterfeit automobile supplemental restraint system component, nonfunctional airbag or object that does not comply with federal standard for make, model and year of motor vehicle. This bill is in the [Senate Committee on Judiciary](#) (let us know if you know any of the committee members).

[Senate Bill 512](#): Requires that fee for motor vehicle emission certificates of compliance issued after inspection that did not occur at department test station and did not use testing equipment owned by department not exceed lowest fee for other motor vehicle emissions certificates of compliance. Introduced at the request of NATA in the [Joint Transportation Committee](#) (let us know if you know any of the committee members).

[Senate Bill 780](#): Creates offense of unlawful fender height modifications. Punishes by maximum fine of \$500, unless commission of offense contributes to accident (in which case maximum fine of \$2,000). This bill is in the [Senate Committee on Judiciary](#) (let us know if you know any of the committee members).

I will offer monthly updates (they can be found on the [NATA website](#)). In the meantime, please stay tuned. NATA will send urgent updates if your help is needed in Salem. Your email, or phone call, could be pivotal in the success or failure of legislation. If you would like to visit with me, just reach out: (971) 388-1786 or email fuller_darrell@yahoo.com.

Brothers Car Collection tour for NATA

NATA is inviting members (and their families and employees) to a March 12 event at the Brothers Car Collection in Salem. [Register soon](#) because space is limited.

Tucked away in a large building in Salem, with no external signage and no obvious

entrance from the street, is a truly large and astonishing car collection and museum. It is not publicized, and is hard to find. Most significantly, it is not open to the general public. Those



who are fortunate enough to get in usually arrive by pre-arranged tours through special car clubs or, recently, as a fundraiser for a local charity group. This is a non-guided tour for NATA members from Noon to 3:30 p.m. We hope to see you there!

Small product offers big benefits

Join the 150+ Oregon automotive businesses providing a one-stop shopping experience for customers: While taking care of your customers' typical car needs, you can take care of their DEQ Too™. Applus is an associate member of NATA, and supplies a 2-inch telematics device to several of our members. Some businesses do not charge their customers for the added convenience while others charge as much as \$50. For more information, [click here](#). If your business is interested in participating in DEQ Too™ [click here](#).



In-person Tech Training Throughout Oregon



IN PERSON TRAINING

Training for Automotive Service Professionals



NATA is proud to partner with Baxter Auto Parts to bring in-person training from the Carquest Technical Institute to Bend, Portland, and Medford starting soon. **NATA members can save hundreds of dollars on the registration subscription.**



The nine classes (in each location) are held over the course of this year; each are four hours and are held in the evening.

A 1-year subscription to register is \$149 a month for up to six technicians, but NATA or TECHNet members can register for just \$99 per month. Contact NATA or Baxter Auto Parts for member information.

For more details and to register, download the 3-page flier for the location where you will want to attend: [Portland](#), [Bend](#) or [Medford](#).

Portland Roadster Show is back

The Portland Roadster Show is back, taking place March 17-19. This year they have added THE TOY BOX, an off-road exhibit. [Click here](#) for more details.



Ask NATA: Legislation regarding payments

A NATA member recently asked: About a year ago we decided to not accept cash and just accept credit card and checks. A customer came in today and mentioned a law regarding this that was passed last spring in Oregon. Have you heard anything about this law or if other members have had any issues? Thanks.

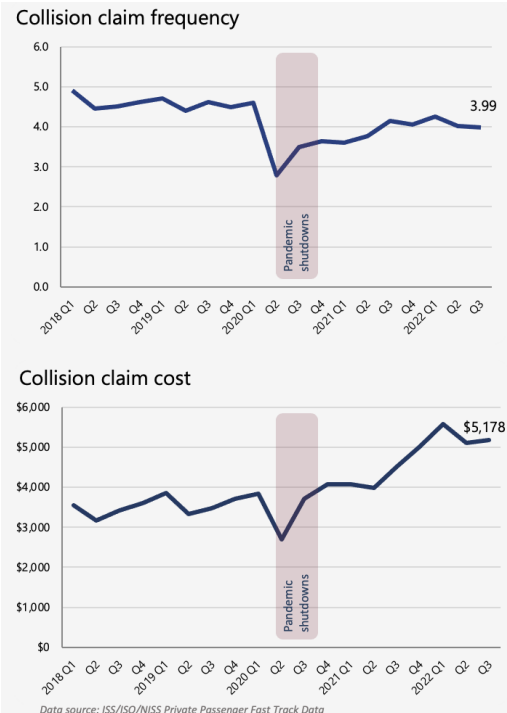


NATA responds: The customer is correct: An Oregon law generally prohibits businesses from refusing payment by cash. [Click here](#) for details.

Claims costs rises, frequency falls

Both the frequency of paid collision claims and the total number of those claims dropped again in Oregon for the second consecutive quarter, according to the latest "Fast Track Plus" data released by the Independent Statistical Service (ISS). The cost of the average collision claim, however, rose to \$5,178 in the third quarter of 2022, but the increase was in line with seasonal expectations and remained below the \$5,574 peak reached in the first quarter of 2022.

Collision claim frequency in the third quarter, down slightly from Q2, was 3.99 claims per 100 insured car years (an insured car year is the equivalent of one car insured for one full year), lower than in any quarter in the two years prior to the pandemic.



Schools are the wave of the future

We know there is a staffing shortage across all areas of our industry. The way forward

REQUIRES that we – the automotive business community – become involved in schools at both the secondary and post-secondary level. Each month we bring you updates and announcements of hiring events, job openings, and other ways you can become involved (see below). Please engage with your local automotive programs. If you need contact information, call our office. At this time, our staff participates on nine advisory boards, facilitates four hiring events, speaks at multiple school events and sponsors the annual Oregon SkillsUSA Automotive Competition.

Here are just three of the opportunities to get involved:

Willamette Career Academy in Salem is holding a mock interview event April 21. [Click here](#) for a flier with more information.

Cascade High School in Turner, Oregon, is inviting speakers to tell students about your career and opportunities in the industry at an event this Thursday (February 9). [Click here](#) for a flier with more information.

Control Tower is a regional program offered through Willamette Educational Service District. It serves Marion, Polk, and Yamhill County school districts with career-connected learning opportunities. It focuses on connecting education with industry to provide students with chances to explore and prepare for careers while they are in high school.

Control Tower is offering an opportunity for industry partners to become job shadow hosts. Job shadow hosts are added to a regional job board and are on standby for when a student applies for a job shadow with their specific company. They will then coordinate a date with the student and host them for a 2- to 8-hour experience. Partners must provide a safe environment as well as an engaging chance for students to learn about the daily work routines and requirements for a given career.

This is an excellent opportunity to promote your company and our industry while boosting your engagement with the community. This is also a great entry point into partnering with Control Tower on providing other experiences for students.

Check out the [Job Shadow Guide for Industry Partners](#) for more info on getting started, or contact Cassy Harris, Control Tower Engagement Specialist, at (503) 540-4420 (or email cassy.harris@wesd.org).

Salem students receive tool donations

Three autobody/paint students from the Career Technical Education Center (CTEC) in Salem received tool boxes and tools last month courtesy of the [March Taylor Memorial Fund](#).

Eddie Ceja, Jullian Moran and Daniel Mendoza each received Dewalt 20-volt drills (donated by Kent Automotive), plastic dent repair kits (donated by DentFix

Equipment), Keco Tabs donated by that company, a 6-inch DA sander (donated by Astro Tools), and a variety of hand tools (screwdriver and socket sets, vise grips, combination wrench set, and 24-inch pry bar) donated by Toby Chess.



Oregon shop owner Ron Reichen, who participates on the program's advisory board, paid for airline tickets for the three students and their instructor, Alex Crays, to attend the Collision Industry Conference in Palm Springs last month, where they were presented with the donations.

Schools have job openings

Clark College in Vancouver has an opening for a part-time lab tech in the Auto Department. The position involves working with the students, supervising lab assignments and some general tasks in the shop. Hoping to find someone with a flexible schedule. [Click here](#) for details, or contact: Dannie Nordsiden, Manager of Technician Development (360) 992-2566 (office or (360) 907-4053 (cell)



Portland Community College Sylvania Campus has an opening for a part-time Instructor in the Automotive Service Technology Department. [Click here](#) for more details.

Phoenix High School in Phoenix, Oregon, is looking for an Automotive Technology Teacher. [Click here](#) for more information.



CENTRAL OREGON
community college

Central Oregon Community College needs part-time automotive instructors during spring term this year. The school needs at least 2-3 people for spring term and likely moving forward into next year. Spring term begins April 3 and ends June 15. However,

many of our courses are "short courses," meaning the class will run from 7:40 a.m. to 12:10 p.m., Monday through Thursday, for four weeks. Some courses are even shorter, 2.5 weeks. Some are longer, spanning the entire 12-week term. So there is flexibility in the schedule for those are currently working in or running shops. [Click here](#) for details, or contact Jared Green, Automotive Instructor, (541) 383-7422.

Has NATA quoted your health, dental or vision insurance?

Our NATA Health Plan rates are becoming more competitive all the time. Beginning this year, our health insurance plan will include life insurance coverage as well! Call Tere MacNaughton at (503) 253-9898 for quotes or more information.



State issues report on insurance compliance

All 12 health insurance companies in the individual, small group, and large group markets in Oregon failed to comply fully with the Reproductive Health Equity Act at varying levels, according to reports released this month by the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services' Division of Financial Regulation. The agency found that most noncompliance involved improperly charging copays, coinsurance and deductibles, or failing to cover mandated benefits.



The Oregon Legislature passed Oregon Reproductive Health Equity Act in 2017. Starting in 2019, health insurance companies were required to provide, with no cost share, a specified list of reproductive health, sexual health, preventive care and other health care services.

[Click here](#) to read more about what services insurance companies are required to cover. Consumers who believe they have not received the services or benefits they are owed under the law are encouraged to contact their insurer or the division's consumer advocacy team at (888) 877-4894 or visit the agency's [help page](#).

Helpful Links To Oregon Agencies

If you're looking for information, help or training from Oregon regulators, here are the links you need:

The Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industry (BOLI) offers training seminars on such topics as wage and hour laws, discipline and discharge, and the latest developments in employment law. Details are available by [clicking here](#).



The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality invites businesses that handle hazardous waste to sign up for a free class covering basic management of such waste. [Click here](#) for more details.

The Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) offers classroom workshops and online training. [Click here](#) for current class description and schedule.



EDUCATION

BENEFITS

CONSUMER INFO

SHOP HELP

INSURANCE

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