



**OFFICE OF SENATOR ANTHONY BROADMAN**

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**Press Contact:**

Adam MacDonald-Factor

[adam.macdonaldfactor@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:adam.macdonaldfactor@oregonlegislature.gov)

**Sen. Broadman Introduces Bipartisan Bill to Legalize On-Road  
Use of Lightweight, Affordable Utility Vehicles**

*The legislation would provide flexibility for individuals and small businesses to use  
efficient Kei trucks as an alternative to full-size trucks*

**Salem, OR —** Today, **Sen. Anthony Broadman (D-Bend)**, introduced legislation to legalize the registration and on-road use of Kei trucks in Oregon, an efficient, affordable alternative to full-sized trucks. [Senate Bill 1213](#) has strong bipartisan support and is co-sponsored by **Rep. Emily McIntire (R-Eagle Point)**, **Rep. Hai Pham (D-Hillsboro & W Beaverton)**, and **Sen. David Brock Smith (R-Port Orford)**.

“Small businesses, farmers, and Oregonians across our state are asking for practical, cost-effective transportation options,” **Sen. Broadman** said. “Kei trucks are nimble, fuel-efficient, and ideal for navigating rural roads, job sites, and tight urban corridors. This legislation simply makes it legal to use a tool that’s already proving useful across the Pacific Northwest.”

Kei trucks — small, lightweight utility vehicles originally manufactured in Japan and South Korea — are increasingly popular in neighboring states for their affordability, fuel efficiency, and versatility. They are often used to haul equipment, transport goods, and complete maintenance work on farms, campuses, parks, and private properties. Their small size and low environmental impact also make them an attractive option for municipalities and contractors in need of flexible fleet vehicles.

As [recently reported by OPB](#), these compact vehicles are already being used for everything from farm work and landscaping to local deliveries and municipal services. Despite their growing use elsewhere, Oregon law prohibits Kei trucks from being registered for on-road use. “Big trucks come with big price tags,” said John Heylin, owner of Unofficial Logging Company, an axe-throwing bar in Bend. “Kei trucks are practical, affordable rigs. They’re a great option for some businesses. I hope the Legislature takes this step to support small businesses and commerce in Oregon.”

SB 1213 defines Kei trucks based on size, age, and engine capacity, and allows individuals to register them for a standard fee, bringing Oregon in line with states that have already recognized their utility.

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