



SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 3, 2026

Contact: Elizabeth Cronen, elizabeth.cronen@oregonlegislature.gov

Bipartisan Legislation Eases a Common Problem After Selling a Used Car

House Bill 4137 makes it simpler to clear up tickets you didn't incur

SALEM, OR – Selling your used car puts cash in your pocket and gives buyers a chance at a bargain, but it's a headache to start getting parking tickets or traffic violations in the mail, tied to the vehicle you don't own anymore. That can happen if the buyer isn't quick about registering your old car in their name. Legislation passed in the Oregon Senate today makes it easier to resolve the citations.

"No one wants to get a parking or traffic ticket, but it's even worse if you weren't even driving the car," said **Senator Sara Gelsler Blouin (D – Corvallis, Albany & S. Salem)**, who carried the bill in the Oregon Senate. "HB 4137 will ensure Oregonians aren't stuck with fines and court dates for violations they didn't commit. Under this measure, drivers will have up to 30 days after receiving notice of a violation to submit a written certificate of innocence to the court."

House Bill 4137 allows Oregonians who have already transferred ownership of a vehicle, but who receive citations on the vehicle incurred after that transaction, to notify the court within 30 days using a certificate of innocence or other process spelled out by the court. Without this legislation, the former owner of the vehicle could instead be required to appear in person before a court.

To qualify for the written option, the citations must be for another person's parking, abandoning, or operation of the vehicle, and the car's seller must have already submitted a [notice of transfer](#) to the Oregon Department of Transportation. A notice of transfer or sale is required to be submitted within 10 days of selling a vehicle.

House Bill 4137 originated in the Oregon House of Representatives, where it was championed by **Representative Jami Cate (R – Lebanon)** and passed last month.

"This problem was raised for me by a constituent, who had been turned into collections for parking tickets—despite doing everything right to transfer her interest in that car upon sale," said **Rep. Cate**. "When laws aren't working how the Legislature intended, common-sense fixes like this are needed to better protect Oregonians moving forward."

The legislation cleared the Oregon Senate today in a unanimous vote. The measure now goes to Governor Tina Kotek for her signature.

###