

**Subject:** Request for Legislative Action to Lift Oregon's Kei Truck Ban

Dear [Representative's Name],

I am writing to bring to your attention the concerns raised by JDM Oregon Advocates regarding the current ban on registering and titling Japanese Kei trucks in Oregon.

**Background:**

In 2010, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) sent a letter to the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) expressing concerns about the safety of imported mini trucks. This led to the AAMVA's 2011 publication, "Best Practice Regarding Registration and Titling of Mini-Trucks," recommending that such vehicles not be titled or registered for public road use.

The AAMVA's guidance, revised in 2021, further discouraged the registration of all 25+ year-old Japanese Domestic Market (JDM) vehicles not built to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS). Consequently, the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) ceased titling and registering these vehicles, even revoking existing registrations.

**Issues Identified:**

1. **Misclassification:** The IIHS and AAMVA documents conflate Kei trucks—roadworthy vehicles designed for public roads in Japan—with off-road mini trucks like the Chinese-manufactured Tiger Truck. This misclassification has led to inappropriate restrictions on Kei trucks.
2. **Inconsistent Standards:** The AAMVA's recommendations cite differences in vehicle size and engine displacement as reasons for the ban. However, FMVSS does not mandate specific body sizes or engine displacements. Moreover, many imported vehicles over 25 years old, which also don't meet FMVSS, remain legal in Oregon.
3. **Contradictory Logic:** The AAMVA's assertion that the U.S. is accepting "another nation's cast-offs" overlooks the fact that numerous vintage and niche imported vehicles are legally operated on Oregon roads.

**Request:**

We urge Oregon's Representatives and ODOT to re-evaluate the current policies and consider legislation that distinguishes between off-road mini trucks and roadworthy Kei trucks. Such action would align Oregon's vehicle registration policies with those of other states that permit the use of Kei trucks on public roads.

For a detailed exposition of these issues, please refer to JDM Oregon Advocates' statement: <https://www.jdmoregonadvocates.com/our-statement>

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I am available to discuss this further and provide any additional information you may require.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your Contact Information]