

HB 521 -- ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE

SPONSOR: Windham

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Special Committee on Criminal Justice by a vote of 9 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 11 to 0.

Currently, when an individual is operating a motor vehicle and arrested, he or she must arrange for the vehicle to be removed in a timely manner. This bill specifies that the vehicle must be removed within 48 hours of his or her arrest.

This bill is the same as HB 1940 (2020).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this is important because, currently, it is in the officer's discretion how long a person has to make arrangements for his or her vehicle, but it could leave a lot of people in a dire situation if the car is towed quickly. For example, a teenager who is using his or her mother's car and who makes a mistake could leave his or her mother without a vehicle if not given the opportunity to make arrangements for the vehicle with sufficient time.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Windham.

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill submitted written testimony, which can be found online.

Testifying against the bill was Arnie C. Dienoff.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.