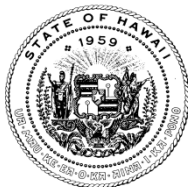


SB2726

SD1



Testimony of
GLENN M. OKIMOTO
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
RANDY GRUNE
AUDREY HIDANO
JADINE URASAKI

IN REPLY REFER TO:

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 21, 2014
11:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 16

S.B. 2726, S.D. 1
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

The Department of Transportation **opposes** this bill to allow all terrain vehicles to be operated as farm equipment on streets as defined in 291C-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS).

In subsection (a), paragraph (1) of the bill, it states that all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) will be operated as farm vehicles, but it is not clear whether a continuous permit or permit for each trip and payment of a fee will be required as provided in section 286-36, HRS. Exemptions for farm equipment use on public roads typically are for vehicles that exceed weight or size limitations, ATVs are smaller than normal vehicles.

These vehicles cannot be registered for use on public roads in Hawaii, because they do not have a certification label indicating that they comply with all applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards and a 17-character vehicle identification number on the label as required by federal regulations. The federal motor vehicle safety standards require manufacturers to install safety features that help to protect vehicle occupants from injury in the event of a violent maneuver or crash. Without a certification label affixed by the manufacturer, there is no way to know whether or not any safety equipment installed in the vehicle actually serves the purpose for which it is intended. For example, the utility ATVs apparently have seat belts, but there is no indication that the vehicles were crash tested to measure not only the effectiveness of the belts but the safety of the vehicle as a whole.

If the intent is to allow ATVs to be driven on public roads without a farm equipment permit, and a specific route to be used, it will be difficult to enforce, because police officers will have no way to determine whether or not the vehicles are being used for farming or other uses. Also, if one of these vehicles were to crash into a registered and insured vehicle, the occupants of the ATV could become an unwarranted liability for the owner of the insured vehicle and possibly the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony.



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

February 21, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

TESTIMONY ON **SB 2726, SD1**
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

Room 016
11:30 AM

Aloha Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFBF). Organized since 1948, the HFBF is comprised of 1,832 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interest of our diverse agricultural community.

Hawaii Farm Bureau STRONGLY SUPPORTS SB 2726, SD1 expanding the use of ATVs and UTVs relating to certain agricultural operations.

The ATV and UTV are important alternative vehicles for farmers and ranchers who must traverse rough terrain. Farms and ranches are often separated by sections of highway. This measure seeks to address this situation while minimizing risk.

Your strong support of this measure is requested to support farmers and ranchers to raise crops to meet Hawaii's goal of increased self sufficiency and sustainability.

PLEASE SUPPORT SB 2726, SD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: warrenmcfb@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2726 on Feb 21, 2014 11:30AM*
Date: Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:22:34 AM

SB2726

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for JDL on Feb 21, 2014 11:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Warren Watanabe	Maui County Farm Bureau	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov