



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

IN REPLY REFER TO:

March 17, 2015
2:45 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 229

**H.B. 1089, H.D.2
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION**

Senate Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation **opposes** H.B.1089, H.D.2. The objective of the inspection program is to keep the number of defects in the vehicle population at a minimum with the expectation that this will help keep the number of crashes and breakdowns caused by defects to a minimum.

In 1988 Congress had the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) study state inspection programs to determine whether they improve highway safety. NHTSA's 1989 report concluded that Periodic Motor Vehicle Inspection (PMVI) programs reduce the number of poorly maintained vehicles on the highways, but that available data did not conclusively demonstrate that PMVI programs significantly reduced crash rates. However, the General Accounting Office (GAO) reviewed the NHTSA study and concluded in 1990 that "when all the studies and analyses are considered together, even taking into account their individual limitations, their relative consistency justifies a conclusion that periodic inspection programs reduce accident rates." Moreover, the inspection program produces vehicle defect data that allows an intuitive conclusion that the program makes a contribution toward improving highway safety.

Each year thousands of defects are identified and corrected via the PMVI program. Examples of the 261,291 defects detected statewide in Calendar Year 2014 that would not have been corrected if we did not have the yearly inspection program are 19,209 insurance violations; 161,627 expired registrations; 12,568 defective tires; 6,947 defective stop lamps and 3,715 headlamps.

Requiring motorists with vehicles registered in a county with a population of 300,000 or less to submit to a motor vehicle inspection once every two years would allow those motorists, who do not take the maintenance of their vehicle seriously, to go unchecked for the entire two-year period in between the motor vehicle inspections. These defects, if left unchecked for a two year period, could potentially place vehicles that are unsafe on our roads. The accompanying table provides the number of defects for vehicle in a

county with a population of 300,000 or less for the annual PMVI program calendar year 2014.

County	Total Inspections	TOTAL Defects	Defects by Category					
			Registration	Insurance	Tires	Wipers	Stop Lamps	Head Lamps
Hawaii County	161,531	45,957	24,458	8,494	1,520	756	1,135	493
Maui County	141,044	30,576	22,561	1,533	1,095	260	508	242
Kauai County	64,629	10,897	8,202	306	433	117	278	59

Hawaii nudges the owners to maintain the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards by making most of them a part of the motor vehicle inspection program. Since no one ever expects to be in a crash, motivating people to take preventive action is often difficult, especially when taking the action costs money.

Based on the defects identified and corrected, the annual PMVI program seems to be helping many people keep their vehicles in a reasonably safe condition.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



March 8, 2015

Re: HB1089 HD2 to extend the safety inspection period from one year to two and to double the current fee to reflect fiscal neutrality for both consumers and motor vehicle safety inspection stations.

Aloha Honorable Chair, Vice Chair and members of the TRA/CPN Committees,

The staff and management of Aloha Shell Service have concerns on HB1089 HD2.

We believe the current inspection program is doing what it is intended to do and that is to provide a method to ensure proper safety of motor vehicles that are driven on public highways.

According to the STAND. COM. REP. NO. 755, RE: H.B. 1089 H.D. 2, the intended reason for changing the inspection period from one year to two "is to mitigate the burdens of obtaining a yearly certificate of motor vehicle inspection".

Please understand the primary purpose of the inspection is to ensure proper safety of motor vehicles that are driven on public highways and NOT to obtain a certificate. The certificate is merely a document that certifies that it complies with all government laws.

Convenience should never be a reason to compromise safety.

It should also never be a reason to discriminate. The inspection program should be held to the same standard throughout the entire state. Population size has nothing to do with the safety of a vehicle.

Should the safety inspection period change from one year to two, it would also make sense to change the period of the vehicle registration and no fault insurance to be concurrently effective for two years. It doesn't make sense for the safety inspection to last for two years while the insurance or registration is only good for a month.

The rules, regulations, procedures and standards should be changed to reflect the two year period. For example: Upon inspection, brake material thickness and tire tread depth are at the minimum standards but will it last for two years?

Most importantly, the government should enforce the current rules and regulations. There are too many illegal vehicles with loud exhausts, dark tints, lifted, oversized tires, expired safety inspections, expired registrations and no insurance. Extending the period without more enforcement will only encourage more illegal modifications and expirations.

Nonetheless, we support this bill with reservations stated above.

Thank you for allowing us to voice our concerns on this bill.

Paul Hanada
CEO

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TRA Testimony](#)
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1089 on Mar 17, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Sunday, March 15, 2015 12:44:46 PM

HB1089

Submitted on: 3/15/2015

Testimony for TRA/CPN on Mar 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Oppose	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.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TRA Testimony](#)
Cc: babyjean@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1089 on Mar 17, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Monday, March 16, 2015 2:09:10 PM

HB1089

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for TRA/CPN on Mar 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronnie Perry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill. There is no need to have a safety check done every year. For many people it is an unnecessary hassle and expense especially with the recent changed. I support this bill Mahalo, Ronnie Perry

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