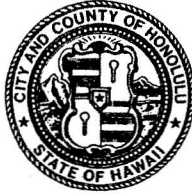


POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 529-3111 · INTERNET: www.honolulu-pd.org

MUFI HANNEMANN
MAYOR



LATE

BOISSE P. CORREA
CHIEF

PAUL D. PUTZULU
MICHAEL D. TUCKER
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE RL-LC

February 6, 2008

The Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Chair
and Members
Committee on Transportation
House of Representatives
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Souki and Members:

Subject: House Bill No. 2343, Relating to Traffic Violations

I am Acting Captain Gordon Shiraishi of Traffic Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD strongly supports House Bill No. 2343, relating to traffic violations. This bill authorizes an administrative fee of \$4 for all citations issued for traffic code violations to be shared by the judiciary and the counties for the establishment and maintenance of the electronic citation system.


Electronic citations are currently being used by many enforcement agencies throughout the nation. It is a faster, easier, and more accountable way of citing violators for traffic violations. Although it is a costly system to implement, in the long run, it allows the officer to issue more citations to violators with accuracy and saves many hours of accounting for both enforcement and the judiciary. Because police will be able to detect traffic violators and issue more citations, it will save more lives by preventing drivers from disobeying the laws.

The HPD is recommending that the administrative fee be applied to all state and county traffic code violations instead of only the violations as set forth in chapter 291C of the Hawaii Revised Statutes.

The HPD strongly urges your committee to pass House Bill No. 2343, as electronic citations are a necessary step toward the efficient issuance and tracking of our enforcement efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,


GORDON SHIRAISHI, Acting Captain
Traffic Division

APPROVED:


for BOISSE P. CORREA
Chief of Police

Honorable Joseph Souki, Chair
Committee on Transportation
House of Representatives
State of Hawaii

Late Testimony

Hearing: February 6, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.

Re: HB 2343 ---- Relating to Traffic Violations

Chair Souki and Honorable Committee Members:

My name is Wayne Tanaka and I am the Legislative Committee Chair for Catrala-Hawaii. Catrala's members consists of the major u-drive (car rental) companies in Hawaii and the many businesses which support our industry.

Catrala supports this bill with amendment as stated below.

During peak volume periods u-drive companies may have 40,000 or more rental vehicles on Hawaii's roads being operated by tourists. Typically, u-drive companies are only made aware of the traffic infractions or violations of their renters after the renters leave Hawaii and return home to their foreign county or the mainland.

While it is not fair for u-drive companies to be responsible for the infractions or violations of their renters, under Hawaii's laws u-drives companies are held partially responsible and pay in excess of \$1 million a year to the Judiciary. In places like California, u-drive companies do not pay for any of the infractions or violations of their renters.

To avoid unfairness and adding a further burden and cost to our industry, we propose an amendment to this bill that would make u-drive companies responsible for no more than what they are already responsible for as to the violations committed by their renters.

Our proposed amendment is as follows. To section 2 of the bill at line 4, the following words in italic letters and underlined should be added:

"Effective July 1, 2008, an administrative fee of \$4 shall be assessed on each citation issued for a violation of chapter 291C, the statewide traffic code; provided notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the owners of u-drive vehicles shall only be responsible for such administrative fees of their renters or lessees as provided for in section 291D-3.5."

We urge you not to make u-drive companies responsible for the violations of others and not to further burden or businesses. Please pass this bill with the suggested amendment.

Thank you for allowing us to testify.