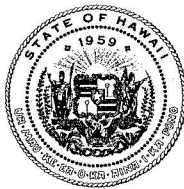


LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



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

BRENNON T. MORIOKA
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
MICHAEL D. FORMBY
FRANCIS PAUL KEENO
BRIAN H. SEKIGUCHI

IN REPLY REFER TO:

March 12, 2008

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SENATE BILL NO. 3240, SD 1

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

We support the provision, which allows the expired driver's license of a member of the United States armed forces on active federal service outside of the country, to remain valid for 90 days upon return to the United States. We believe this will help make for a smoother transition for military personnel returning home from active duty. This is one way we can support our military men and women.

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 3240 SD1
A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENSE

PRESENTATION TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT G. F. LEE
ADJUTANT GENERAL
March 12, 2008

Chair Souki, Chair Evans and Member of the Committees:

I am Major General Robert G. F. Lee, State Adjutant General. I am testifying on Senate Bill 3240 SD1. This bill allows the expired driver's license of any service member who is on active federal service and whose license expired while deployed outside of the U. S. to remain valid for ninety days after their return.

We strongly support this measure. Act 221, Session Laws of Hawaii, 2006, allows for the renewal of a driver's license by a member of any component of the U. S. armed forces serving outside the State of Hawaii. The service member has ninety days after the return from deployment or release from the hospital to renew the driver's license. The examiner of drivers may waive the license reactivation fee.

Passage of this measure would enhance the intent of Act 221, Session Laws of Hawaii, 2006, by allowing the expired driver's license to remain valid while our service member completes the license renewal process. Chair Souki, Chair Evans, thank you for letting me submit this written testimony.

DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES
CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU
DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLE, LICENSING AND PERMITS
ADMINISTRATION
P.O. BOX 30300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96820-0300

MUFI HANNEMANN
MAYOR



JEFF J. COELHO
DIRECTOR

DENNIS A. KAMIMURA
LICENSING ADMINISTRATOR

March 10, 2008

The Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Chair
and Committee Members
Committee on Transportation
The Honorable Cindy Evans, Chair
and Committee Members
Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs
House of Representatives
State of Hawaii
State Capitol, Room 441
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Souki, Chair Evans and Committee Members:

Subject: S.B. No. 3240 SD1, Relating to Motor Vehicle Driver's License

The City and County of Honolulu and the Counties of Hawaii, Kauai and Maui agree with the intent of S.B. No. 3240 SD1 which will amend the driver license periods and allow the expired driver's license of a service member who is deployed outside the United States to remain valid for ninety days after return.

In order to allow the service member exemption to be effective upon approval and the change in driver license period effective November 3, 2008 to allow for appropriate computer programming changes, we recommend that the content of H.B. No. 3023 be inserted. Section 1 would be effective upon approval and Section 2 would be effective on November 3, 2008.

The City and County of Honolulu and the Counties of Hawaii, Kauai and Maui recommend your favorable consideration of S.B. No. 3240 SD1, as amended.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis A. Kamimura".

DENNIS A. KAMIMURA
Licensing Administrator

DAK:bk

nishimoto2-Bryce

From: wil yamamoto [wilyamamoto@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2008 4:38 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: Testimony against SB 3240

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2008

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY & MILITARY AFFAIRS

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, March 12, 2008
TIME: 10:20 am
PLACE: Conference Room 309
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

A G E N D A
SB 3240, SD1
(SSCR2302)
Status

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENSE.

Increases a driver's license from six to eight years; authorizes the examiner of drivers to issue a license for a shorter period if the licensee has a physical condition that may impair the ability to drive; allows the expired driver's license of a service member who is on active federal service and whose license expired while deployed outside the U.S. to remain valid for ninety days after return; applies to licenses issued after November 1, 2008. (SD1)

Dear Committee Members:

I'm submit this testimony in OPPOSITION to SB3240 sd1 insofar as it proposes to increase the driver's license period from six (6) to eight (8) years. This bill was originally introduced to accommodate active federal service members, who often return to Hawaii with expired licenses after being overseas for a number of months or years. However, there has been no explanation or justification as to why the 6 year period should be extended to 8 years. More importantly, there is no justification as to why all civilians should be entitled to have their driver's license extended to 8 years.

The reason we have an expiration/renewal of licenses in the first place is to ensure the continued safety of all people who use federal/state/county roads. During the renewal process, all drivers must submit to a vision and/or written test - which promotes visual safety and the continual education necessary for driver's to learn any new traffic laws or re-educate themselves on the rules of the road.

I believe the most important safety mechanism for our crowded roads is to increase driver awareness and education regarding our traffic laws. I'm sure many of you are aware of the frightening statistics of the many elderly and young children pedestrians who have been hit and killed by drivers who simply ignore/forget the rules of the road (i.e., stopping or slowing before any marked crosswalk). Almost daily, I encounter drivers who fail to signal when changing lanes, fail to signal for the requisite travel distance before turning, or honk at bicyclists in front of them (even though the law is that bicycles are entitled just as much as cars to use our roads).

By extending the driver's license expiration/renewal, you are in essence reducing the amount of education driver's are required to maintain. If anything, the driver's license expiration/renewal requirement should be shorter (more frequent).

All of us are given the PRIVILEGE to use our public roads. We should encourage all

drivers to stay current regarding our traffic laws by keeping the expiration at 6 years or reducing the number of years (NOT increasing it).

I do not oppose issuing licenses for a shorter period of the licensee has a physical condition impairing the ability to drive and do not oppose extending the validity of licenses by 90 days for active federal service members.

Wil Yamamoto
733 Bishop St., Ste 1900
Honolulu, HI 96813

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