

WRITTEN ONLY

TESTIMONY BY GEORGINA K. KAWAMURA  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
STATE OF HAWAII  
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
ON  
HOUSE BILL NO. 1859, H.D. 1

February 22, 2010

RELATING TO FUNDING FOR PARKING FOR DISABLED PERSONS

House Bill No. 1859, H.D. 1, increases the annual vehicle registration fee by \$1, which will be deposited into the Disability and Communications Access Board Special Fund to cover the cost of administering parking for persons with disabilities. This bill also repeals the deposit of application fees for the credentialing of interpreters into the special fund, and allows use of special fund monies to cover the costs of administering the credentialing program.

As a matter of general policy, this department believes that special or revolving funds should meet the requirements of Sections 37-52.3, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Section 37-52.3 specifies that special funds should: 1) reflect a clear nexus between the benefits sought and charges made upon the users or beneficiaries of the program; 2) provide an appropriate means of financing for the program or activity; and 3) demonstrate the capacity to be financially self-sustaining. It is difficult to determine whether there is a clear nexus between the benefits sought and charges made upon the users or beneficiaries of the program.



## DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 101 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814  
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V/TDD) • Fax (808) 586-8129

February 22, 2010

LATE

### TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

#### House Bill 1859, HD1 - Relating to Funding for Parking for Disabled Persons

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) strongly supports House Bill 1859, HD1 to amend Section 249-31, Hawaii Revised Statutes, increasing the motor vehicle registration fee by \$1 to pay for the parking program for persons with disabilities. DCAB is the State agency responsible for the overall coordination and administration of this federally required program.

The parking program consists of a centralized, Internet-based database operated by DCAB staff, issuance of the placards by the counties at twenty-two (22) locations, and accessed by law enforcement personnel. In FY 2009, 33,212 placards were issued. DCAB expects the number to increase to 38,216 for current FY 2010. A total of 73,817 individuals held active placards as of June 2009. DCAB also conducts quality assurance by cross-referencing death records, sending out reminder notices, retrieving, destroying, and shredding 9,245 placards in FY 2009.

The program currently is 100% general funded. The central costs are approximately \$288,774 for supplies (purchasing placards, decals, identification card stock, application forms, operation of the central database, and central staff). The program currently consists of the issuance of the permits by the counties at a cost of \$397,764 in FY 2009. We expect the FY 2010 costs to the counties to be a minimum of \$458,592 based upon projections for this year.

Given the aging of our population and the projected increase in the number of people who are eligible for placards, the program will be a financial drain on the general fund. This bill proposes to create a revenue stream from the motor vehicle registration fee with a modest assessment of \$1 on the motor vehicles. We believe that this nominal increase will ensure the continued existence of this program in a manner that ensures quality and integrity of the program and not detract from the general fund. This bill also amends Section 348F-7 to change the use of the DCAB Special Fund to allow the receipt and expenditure of the money. DCAB has spoken with the counties to ensure that this is administratively feasible, although have been cautioned that projected income should not be counted upon for six (6) months.

We strongly urge your passage of this bill.

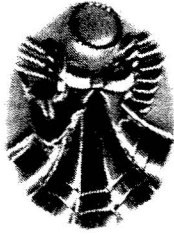
Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important issue.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES FLEMING  
Chairperson  
Legislative Committee

FRANCINE WAI  
Executive Director

LATE



**FRANCINE MAE AONA KENYON**

2520 Jasmine Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816  
[archerygal001@gmail.com](mailto:archerygal001@gmail.com)

Monday, February 22, 2010 at 10:00 AM in Conference Room 308

**TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

**HOUSE BILL 1859, HD 1 – RELATING TO FUNDING FOR PARKING FOR PERSONS WITH  
DISABILITIES**

My name is Francine Aona Kenyon and am a deaf advocate. I have rheumatoid arthritis on both of my knees and am the holder of the handicapped parking placards ever since 1980 in both states of Maryland and Hawaii.

I strongly support the House Bill 1859, House Draft 1, Relating to Funding for Parking for Persons with Disabilities, which increases the annual vehicle registration fees by \$1, which will be deposited into the Disability and Communication Access Board Special Fund to cover the costs of administering parking for persons with disabilities; (2) repeals the deposit of application fees for the credentialing of interpreters into the Special Fund, and the use of Special Fund monies to cover the costs of administering the program for their credentialing.

The Disability and Communication Access Board has been very actively administered and advocated various programs for persons with disabilities including parking and credentialing of interpreters for over 20 years.

Thank you for the opportunity for me to testify.

Sincerely,

Francine Aona Kenyon  
Deaf Advocate