



S

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

JAMES R. AIONA, JR.
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. Box 541
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
Phone Number: (808) 586-2850
Fax Number: (808) 586-2856
www.hawaii.gov/dcca

LAWRENCE M. REIFURTH
DIRECTOR

RONALD BOYER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

PRESENTATION OF THE
OFFICE OF CONSUMER PROTECTION
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
TWENTY-FIFTH STATE LEGISLATURE
Regular Session 2010

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2010
8:30 a.m.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 1978 – RELATING TO TOWING.

TO THE HONORABLE JOSEPH M. SOUKI, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE:

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department") appreciates
the opportunity to provide these comments on House Bill No. 1978, Relating to Towing.

My name is Stephen Levins, and I am the Executive Director of the Department's Office
of Consumer Protection ("OCP").

At this time the Department is not opposed to the proposed amendments offered
by House Bill No. 1978 so long as the statutory towing fees are not increased in any
manner.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide these comments on House Bill No.
1978.

Hawaii State Towing Association

1040 Makepono Street
Honolulu, HI 96819
Phone: (808) 847-7811
Fax: (808) 842-7605

January 26, 2010

Representative Joseph M. Souki, Chair
Representative Karen Leinani Awana, Vice Chair
Committee on Transportation
State Capitol, Room 309
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: HB1978, Relating to Motor Vehicles

Dear Chair Souki, Vice Chair Awana and Members of the Committee:

Oh behalf of the Hawaii State Towing Association, we endorse this bill as consumers have encountered problems in obtaining the release of vehicles from other towing companies. We also have been asked to transfer the vehicle to an auto body shop for repair work and have been denied. We understand the consumer has also had to wait to pick up his vehicle after it has been towed as no one is at the storage lot to release it. This inconvenience means more storage fees to the consumer.

As to the mandate to require insurance which is stated in the current law but has no minimum amount. We would propose the amount for bodily injury be not less than \$500,000, property damage not less than \$200,000 and on hook coverage of not less than \$175,000 or a combined limit of \$1,000,000. With cost being what they are and the consumer and or his vehicle being at risk this amount of insurance is a small price to pay to cover the potential accident that may occur during a tow.

With these changes to the bill we support its passage. Mahalo for your favorable consideration.
Respectfully Submitted,

Jan Wakaya
President



- Government Employees Insurance Company
- GEICO General Insurance Company
- GEICO Indemnity Company
- GEICO Casualty Company

S

TIMOTHY M. DAYTON, CPCU, GENERAL MANAGER

711 Kapiolani Blvd., Suite 300 ■ Honolulu, HI 96813-5238 ■ Email: tdayton@geico.com

Direct: (808) 593-1875 ■ FAX (808) 593-1876 ■ Cell: (808) 341-9252

House Committee on Transportation
Conference Room 309 State Capitol
Wednesday, January 27, 2010, 8:30 a.m.
HB 1978 – Relating to Towing

Chairman Souki, Vice Chairman Awana, and Members of the Transportation
Committee:

My name is Timothy Dayton, General Manager of GEICO in Hawaii.

GEICO is Hawaii's largest motor vehicle insurer. **GEICO supports House Bill
Number 1978 and has one addition. Specifically, the HRS should clarify that
the consumer's motor vehicle insurer or its towing company will also have 24
hour access to see the vehicle and will be able to obtain prompt release of the
vehicle upon payment of all reasonable fees with a claim check or other
business check.**

I very much appreciate the opportunity to submit this testimony

Timothy M. Dayton