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Subject: Testimony - HB 2602
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LATE TESTIMONY

Please see testimony attached and included as text below:

Testimony on HB 2602

Submitted by Bev Yuen

House Committee on Transportation

February 3, 2010, 9:00 AM

Capitol Conference Room 309

Rep. Souki and Members of the House Transportation Committee,

My name is Bev Yuen. I am testifying as an individual in **SUPPORT of House Bill 2602.**

It has become all too common to see drivers using their cell phones, and reading and sending text message on today's roads. This has been the cause of many accidents and near accidents. Although several of the counties have passed bills similar to this proposed bill, there is a need to have this legislation made state-wide.

I am a ham radio operator and I appreciate the inclusion of the exemption for licensed amateur radio operators in this bill. Thank you for including it.

One of the areas that ham radio is relied on is in emergency communications. Ham radio operators support the Oahu Department of Emergency Management, State Civil Defense, the American Red Cross, local hospitals and other disaster response agencies in Hawaii. Much of this is using their own equipment, maintained at their own expense in their vehicles. To have equipment ready to use in an emergency, the equipment, both in the vehicle and repeaters and other fixed equipment, must be regularly tested and used. Daily use provides constant training so that in the event of an emergency they will be familiar with their equipment.

Amateur radio operators are licensed by the Federal Communications Commission after rigorous examinations and are trained in safe use of their radios.

Amateur or "ham" radio operators have been operating their radios while driving for many years before cell phones became widely used. While cell phones have been causing accidents in recent years since they have become popular, ham radio operators have been using their half-duplex two-way radios safely since the early days of radio. I have never heard, nor could I find any documented evidence, of the use of ham radio causing an accident.

Thank you for your support of this bill and for your support of amateur radio and 2-way radio communication by including them in this bill.

Bev Yuen

Amateur radio license, AH6NF

LATE TESTIMONY

Supplemental Testimony of Ron Hashiro **In Support** of HB 2602 **with Amendments** Relating to Highway Safety

Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs
February 3, 2010

Representative Joseph Souki, Chair
Representative Karen Awana, Vice Chair

I wish to testify **in support** of HB 2602 **with amendments**, which prohibit the use of mobile electronic devices while driving.

I strongly feel that the provisions for subsection (c) (2) relating to drivers using two-way radios should not be limited to those operating fleet vehicles or possessing commercial vehicle licenses.

A number of businesses use passenger vehicles, light trucks and vans which are not fleet vehicles or commercial vehicles that would be impacted by the limitation. Businesses, industries and others affected include: hotels, security companies, taxis, construction, shopping malls, office buildings and complexes, service technicians, news organizations, broadcast and filming, ocean and air tour companies.

The businesses on Oahu and the Big Island have operated since the respective cellular phone ordinances have gone into effect, and to my knowledge, there has been no problems arising from the use of two-way radios while driving a vehicle.

I requested that section (c) (2) be amended to be the same as the Oahu and Big Island ordinances:

“Drivers using two-way radios while in the performance and scope of their work-related duties:

