



Mothers Against Drunk Driving HAWAII  
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## LATE TESTIMONY

February 2, 2009

To: Representative Robert Herkes, Chair – House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce; Representative Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee

Representative Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair – House Committee on Judiciary; Representative Ken Ito, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee

From: Tiffany Tammie Marquez, Youth In Action Member – MADD Hawaii

Re: House Bill 606 – Relating to Intoxicating Liquor

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I am Tiffany Tammie Marquez hereby giving my testimony on House Bill 606 on behalf of the Youth in Action members of Mothers Against Drunk Driving Hawaii. I am currently a senior at Kapolei High School and I am in the Human Service Academy.

I like volunteering with Mothers Against Drunk Driving and the Youth in Action Program because I feel that what they are doing is right. They believe whole heartedly that they want to make this world a better place for the people of this world and for the future of our fellow children. They truly care for people who have been in difficult situations like for example if a drunk driver either killed someone in the family or someone they love, Mothers Against Drunk Driving is always there for you twenty four seven. Mothers Against Drunk Driving is an organization that gives you that feel of security they watch over you and make sure that where you live is a safe community.

I'm against underage drinking because alcohol kills many teenagers like me who deserves a better future. Parents should also be proactive in reminding their children about underage drinking and the consequences.

Weakening the Use and Lose Law will not allow the teenagers to learn anything by giving just a monetary fine. They need to be aware of the strong consequences such as suspending their drivers license. Having a drivers license comes with responsibilities. The decisions that they make is a reflection of who they are. The teenagers who are in possession of the alcohol choose to be in possession of it. They didn't have to be in possession of it they can easily say "no I'm not holding it or I don't want anything to do with this alcohol" they can just walk away. Walking away from things when you know will be bad is the right thing to do it truly means that you are the better person in the situation. Telling the teenagers who made a wrong decisions, just pay monetary fine I feel that they will not learn anything. If anything that will just allow them to make the same wrong decision again and again and again.

We must give a stronger message to the public about the Use and Lose law. We should not weaken the law for the youth sake. Taking away a youth's drivers license sends a clear message that underage drinking will not be tolerated in Hawaii..

MADD Hawaii's Youth In Action members respectfully asks the Committee members to reconfirm the mandatory statewide penalties which became law in 2007, by deleting section 2 (f, g, h and i) from this bill. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.