



Mothers Against Drunk Driving HAWAII
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February 27, 2009

To: Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair – Senate Committee on Judiciary & Government Operations; Senator Dwight Takamine, Vice Chair; and members of the committee

From: Arkie Koehl — Chair, Public Policy, MADD - Hawaii

Re: Senate Bill 1054 – Relating to Highway Safety

I am Arkie Koehl, speaking in support of Senate Bill 1054 on behalf of the membership of MADD-Hawaii.

MADD was part of a group which provided strong advocacy for graduated drivers licensing in Hawaii, resulting in Act 72 in 2006.

We view SB 1054 as potentially strengthening the efforts in our state to enhance the highway safety of young drivers, and all citizens and visitors.

Although MADD has not gathered a significant body of research on the specific driving distractions in the bill, it is entirely logical that major distractions increase the crash risk of novice teenage drivers. We urge passage of this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.