



FRANCINE MAE AONA KENYON

2520 Jasmine Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816
archerygal001@gmail.com

Wednesday, April 1, 2010 at 7:00 pm in Conference Room 308

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

SENATE BILL 2105, SENATE DRAFT 2 (SENATE STANDING CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 2520) – RELATING TO PARKING FOR DISABLED PERSONS

My name is Francine Aona Kenyon and am a deaf advocate.

I strongly support the Senate Bill 2105, Senate Draft 2, Relating to Parking for Disabled Persons, that designates disability and communication access board as issuing agency for removable windshield placards, temporary removable windshield placard, special license plates, and identification cards; deletes counties as issuing agency; and increases the time period that a placard is effective from four to six years.

I have held the permanent removable windshield placards in both states, Maryland and Hawaii, since 1980.

I had a knee surgery on my left knee in 1973 and it has worsened gradually every year, developing the rheumatoid arthritis. I remembered my orthopedic surgeon in Maryland scolding me that because I did not give enough time to allow my knee to heal from the surgery, the second knee surgery was necessary in order to get it fixed again. Because of activities I was involved in, I could not proceed with the second surgery. He also alerted me that if I did not get the second knee surgery on my left knee, I would suffer the arthritis on both knees. I told him I would take the risk because of my active involvement in the sports then.

Recently, my current physician said that it is not possible for me to have knee replacement caps because of pressures on my knees due to being overweight.

I agree that the placard be extended from four to six years, saving more money for the state to purchase the placards every six years, instead of four years. Also, six-year placards would lessen our headaches, renewing every four years.

Thank you for the opportunity for me to testify on behalf of the Deaf community.

Sincerely,

Francine Aona Kenyon
Deaf Advocate