



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 101 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V/TDD) • Fax (808) 586-8129

March 10, 2010

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Senate Bill 2105, Senate Draft 2 - Relating to Parking for Disabled Persons

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) strongly supports Senate Bill 2105, Senate Draft 2 which amends Section 291, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to improve the administration of the parking program for persons with disabilities. DCAB is the State agency responsible for the overall coordination and administration of this federally required program. DCAB is also responsible for promulgating administrative rules, Hawaii Administrative Rules Title 11, Chapter 219, to implement the program. This bill is a companion to House Bill 2574 passed earlier by this Committee.

Although the counties have issued the permits on behalf of the State, the proposed amendment in the bill more accurately reflects the legal requirements of the federal law while still providing the State with the flexibility needed through agreements with the counties similar to drivers licenses, motor vehicle registration fees, etc. Federal law, P.L. 100-641, the Uniform System for Handicapped Parking (1991) establishes the State as the entity responsible for the program. Thus, the permit (placard or license plate) is a State permit and the federal requirements are imposed on the State, not the counties. Section 2 of the bill allows DCAB to enter into an agreement with the counties to issue placards on behalf of DCAB/State with financial arrangements contingent upon funding.

The bill also removes the reimbursement rate to the counties from the statute and places it into administrative rules. As public policy, the rates should not be in the statute. The bill also permits the counties to retain any transaction fees collected, an amount they currently remit to the State general fund. This will simplify accounting.

Finally, the bill also extends the life of the placard from four to six years. This will, in the long run, be a cost saving measure that will not compromise the integrity of the certification process. It will also make it more convenient for the customer with a disability to have the placard remain current for a longer period of time.

We strongly urge your passage of this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES FLEMING
Chairperson
Legislative Committee

FRANCINE WAI
Executive Director



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
March 10, 2010

The Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Chair
House Committee on Transportation
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representative Souki and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: SB 2105 SD2 – RELATING TO PARKING FOR DISABLED PERSONS

The position and views expressed in this testimony do not represent nor reflect the position and views of the Department of Health.

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities **SUPPORTS THE INTENT OF SB 2105 SD2**. The purpose of this bill is to designate the Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) as the issuing agency responsible for removable windshield placards, temporary removable windshield placards, special license plates, and identification cards. The bill also deletes the Counties as the issuing agency and increases qualifying disability from four to six years.

Designating DCAB as the issuing agency would result in an increase in overall administrative efficiency in implementing the parking program and elimination of unnecessary duplication between DCAB and the Counties. Extending the life of the placard from four to six years would be a cost savings to the State and not negatively affect the integrity of the program.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 2105 SD2.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Waynette K.Y. Cabral in black ink.

Waynette K.Y. Cabral
Executive Administrator

Handwritten signature of Rosie Rowe in black ink.

Rosie Rowe
Chair

DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES
CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU
DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLE, LICENSING AND PERMITS
ADMINISTRATION
P.O. BOX 30300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96820-0300

MUFI HANNEMANN
MAYOR



GAIL Y. HARAGUCHI
DIRECTOR

DENNIS A KAMIMURA
LICENSING ADMINISTRATOR

March 8, 2010

The Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Chair
and Committee Members
Committee on Transportation
House of Representatives
State of Hawaii
State Capitol, Room 403
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Souki and Committee Members:

Subject: S.B. No. 2105 SD 2, Relating to Parking For Disabled Persons

The City and County of Honolulu has no objections to S.B. No. 2105 SD2, which clarifies that the State is responsible for the disabled parking program and the counties will be reimbursed for the distribution of the identification cards, placards and license plates.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gail Y. Haraguchi".

Gail Y. Haraguchi
Director

Handwritten initials in black ink, possibly "JH".

awana3-Colleen

From: PL Fritz (Legis) [plflegis@fritzhq.com]
Sent: Monday, March 08, 2010 5:57 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: SD2105 SD2 - March 10, 2010
Attachments: 2010 Legis SB2105 date 2010.03.09 Testimony TRN.pdf

Dear Sir or Madam:

Attached is the testimony in support of Peter L. Fritz for SB2105 SD2. This measure is set on March 10, 2010 at 9:00 A.M.

Peter Fritz
414 Kuwili Street, Suite 104
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
Telephone: 808-532-7118
plflegis@fritzhq.com

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TO: House Committee on Transportation
Wednesday, Mar. 10, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.
Conference Room 309

FROM: Kirby L. Shaw
425 Ena Road, #706-A
Honolulu, HI 96815
k.shaw@hawaii.rr.com
944-0828

SUBJ: SB 2105, SD2 - RELATING TO PARKING FOR DISABLED PERSONS

Rep. Joseph M. Souki, Chair
Rep. Karen Leinani Awana, Vice-Chair
Members of the House Committee on Transportation
Kirby L. Shaw – Individual with a disability, parking placard holder
Wednesday, March 10, 2010

Support for SB 2105, SD2 - Relating to Parking for Disabled Persons

Dear Transportation Committee,

I am an individual with a disability who uses a power wheelchair. I have a van that deploys a ramp from the passenger side of the vehicle. I need to park my van in a parking space reserved for persons with disabilities that provides an adjacent access aisle. Because I have a parking placard, I am able to use such parking spaces. Thus, SB 2105, SD2, Relating to Parking for Disabled Persons, is of significant interest to me.

I am writing to express strong support for SB 2105, SD2. The bill amends the existing statute by defining "issuing agency" to mean the Disability and Communication Access Board, an agency of the State of Hawaii. This designation is appropriate because it comports with 23 CFR 1235, which makes each state responsible for establishing a uniform system of parking for persons with disabilities, including the issuance of disabled parking placards.

In addition, the bill extends the certification of disability from four (4) years to six (6) years. This modest change will reduce the burden of obtaining recertification of eligibility for individuals with permanent conditions such as myself. If an individual's eligibility status changes or the individual passes away while the placard is still valid, the administrative rules (§ 11-219-8, HAR) provides a mechanism for recovery of the placard. Importantly, under this amendment, the State's cost would decrease because the number of renewal placards issued per year would correlatively decrease.

Therefore, for the reasons above, **I urge the committee to support this bill.** Thank you for considering my testimony. Please contact me by mail, e-mail, or phone if you have any questions. Mahalo nui.

Sincerely,

/s/
KIRBY L. SHAW

awana3-Colleen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 09, 2010 9:03 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: Tlenzer@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2105 on 3/10/2010 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for TRN 3/10/2010 9:00:00 AM SB2105

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Anthony Lenzer
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone: 261-2095
E-mail: Tlenzer@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/9/2010

Comments:

My name is Anthony Lenzer. I have a neurological problem which makes walking for any distance difficult. For several years, I have had a disability placard, and it has been a Godsend. I live in Kailua, and have to drive to town frequently for medical appointments, meetings, etc., including those at the Capitol. Having the placard enables me to park at or near these sites.

The provision in SB 2105 extending the time period for which the placard is valid from four to six years is definitely desirable from the point of view of the recipient. It means that he or she needs to apply less frequently, which also means less waiting in line at the issuing office. It should also save the State money, which is critical at this time.

Therefore I urge you to support SB 2105, SD 2, and thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

awana3-Colleen

From: lkakatsu@hawaii.rr.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 09, 2010 11:10 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: Testimony for SB 2105, SD2 on 3/10/2010 at 9:00 am

Testimony for Committee on Transportation, 3/10/2010 at 9:00 am

Conference rm.: 309
Testifier position: Strongly support
Testifier will be present: NO
Submitted by: Lynn Murakami-Akatsuka
Organization: Individual
Address: 45-606 Keole Street; Kaneohe, HI 96744
E-mail: lkakatsu@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/9/2010

Comments: The purpose of this bill is to transfer responsibility for issuing removable windshield placards, temporary removable windshield placards, special license plates, and identification cards, from the counties to the Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB). This bill also extends the duration of a removable placard's validity from four to six years.

I am a Hawaii resident and user of the removable windshield placard for the last 38 years. This bill amends and clarifies the issuance role of DCAB for the special license plates, identification cards, and verifier of the applicant's disability in requesting a second placard.

This bill will result in a cost savings as users will not need to be issued their placard so frequently.

I am in strong support of this bill. Thank for the opportunity to testify.

Henry A. Wilks
3219 Ualena Street
Honolulu, HI 96819

March 9, 2010

Committee of Transportation
Hawaii State Capitol
Conference Room 309
415 South Beretania St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: SB ²¹⁰⁵~~2150~~, SD2

Dear Chairperson Joseph M. Souki & Vice –Chairperson Karen Awana, & Members of the Committee:

My name is Henry Wilks; as a placard carrier, I support Bill 2150, SD2. I agree that the responsibility of the issuing agency for all aspects of handicap placards should lay with the State as opposed to The City & County. This is something I have been looking forward to. I do not believe The City & County have the resources necessary to keep up with the increasing numbers of the handicap population in Hawaii. For these reasons I urge you to pass this bill.

I thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,


Henry A. Wilks

47-345 D Hui Iwa Street
Kaneohe, HI 96744

March 10, 2010

House Committee on Transportation
Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: SB 2105, SD2 Relating to Parking for Disabled Persons

Dear Chair Souki and members of the committee,

My name is Debbie Jackson and my mother uses a parking permit for persons with disabilities. She had a stroke approximately five years ago and has had problems walking long distances, so she obtained and uses a parking permit for persons with disabilities to allow her to use accessible parking spaces.

I support this bill on behalf of my mother, a user of parking spaces for persons with disabilities. Extending the time a placard from 4 to 6 years is acceptable because it is more convenient for her as a user to renew her placard less often, as well as being more cost effective for government.

As long as the program remains operational, I have no objection to the Disability and Communication Access Board being the issuing agency instead of the county. I request you pass this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Debbie Jackson