

DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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

February 23, 2010

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senate Bill 2105, Senate Draft 1 - Relating to Parking for Disabled Persons

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) strongly supports Senate Bill 2105, Senate Draft 1 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.

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.

Other amendments in the bill are housekeeping. 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
February 23, 2010

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Mercado Kim and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: SB 2105 SD1 – 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 SD1**. 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 SD1.

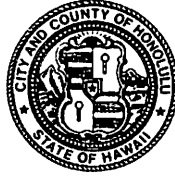
Sincerely,

Waynette K.Y. Cabral
Executive Administrator

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

February 22, 2010

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
and Committee Members
Committee on Ways and Means
The Senate
State of Hawaii
State Capitol, Room 210
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Kim and Committee Members:

Subject: S.B. No. 2105 SD 1, Relating to Parking For Disabled Persons

The City and County of Honolulu has no objections to S.B. No. 2105 SD1, 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".

for

Gail Y. Haraguchi
Director

From: [C.Fleming/ M. Lu](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: SB 2105, SD1
Date: Friday, February 19, 2010 2:05:19 PM

**Committee Senators,
I'm contacting you, as a person who uses a wheelchair, to ask for your support for SB 2105, SD1.**

**I travel by a modified van which kneels and deploys a ramp for me to exit.
The ramp requires a large space at the passenger side and the 8 foot access aisle at
handicapped parking spaces
is just what I need to do it.**

**Obviously, without the blue placard, I could not use these spaces. The placard is currently
issued by counties**

**using state general funds disbursed through DCAB. Although the State has a Federal
mandate to provide handicapped parking placards,
it's up to the counties to actually issue them. Currently DCAB operates a data system to
determine the number of placards being issued and
to make sure that people do not obtain more than they're allowed by going to different
DMV offices and getting duplicates.**

**With the economy the way it is and revenues down, I don't think the counties can be
relied upon to provide the placards in a fast and efficient way.**

**In fact, since the funds for placards have been eliminated from the state general fund
budget, I question whether they can be relied upon to provide them at all.**

**Several years ago there was discussion in Maui county regarding whether to continue the
handicapped parking program because state funding was considered insufficient.**

**If counties were currently to discontinue or reduce the number of placards issued,
disabled folks could be denied placards and, as the state bears the responsibility under
Federal Law,**

Hawaii could be left "holding the bag".

**Therefore I believe that DCAB should have responsibility for issuance of handicapped
parking placards placing
authority and accountability with a single state agency.**

**Thank You,
Chuck Fleming
75-310 W. Kakalina Pl.
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740-1901
Tel. # (808) 326-4708.**