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February 17, 2010

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 76

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, INTERNATIONAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Department of Transportation supports this resolution.

We believe that coordinating a study with the transportation department of each of the respective counties and with interested stakeholders to recommend changes to current laws, can help keep Hawaii's roadways safe.

We also believe this will help people better understand the proper operation of bicycles, mopeds, two-seat mopeds, Segways, hybrid bicycles and powerful mopeds.



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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MUFI HANNEMANN MAYOR



February 13, 2010

WAYNE Y, YOSHIOKA

SHARON ANN THOM DEPUTY DIRECTOR

The Honorable J. Kalani English, Chair and Members
Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs
State Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair English and Members of the Committee:

Subject: Senate Resolution No. 32 and Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 76,

Requesting a Study to Recommend Statutory Amendments to Address the Safe and Proper Operation of Bicycles, Mopeds,

Two-Seat Mopeds, Segways, Hybrid Bicycles and Powerful Mopeds

The Department of Transportation Services supports Senate Resolution No. 32 and Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 76, which would study the safe and proper operation of bicycles, mopeds, and similar vehicles. We agree that this matter requires further evaluation, and we will be happy to serve on a study group when it is convened.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Very truly yours,

Wayne Y. Yoshioka

Mark

Director





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To:

Senator Kalani English, Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs

From:

Robert Bengtson, President

Date:

February 17, 2010

Subject:

SCR 76 and SR 32 - Support with Amendments

The Hawai'i Bicycling League (HBL), the state's largest and oldest bicycling organization, appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony regarding resolutions SCR 76 and SR 32 which request a study to recommend legislation to address the safe and proper operation of bicycles, mopeds, and segways in Hawaii.

According to the League of American Bicyclists, bicycle commuting in Honolulu increased 23% from 2000 to 2008. That percentage is clearly on the rise with a mounting public desire to improve health, cut traffic congestion and contain fuel costs.

HBL supports these resolutions with the following amendment to replace the wording of the second "whereas" clause:

"Whereas traditional bicycles powered solely by human muscles are an effective and efficient transportation option attractive to many commuters, others commuters over longer distances may prefer to use hybrid or power-assisted technologies; and"

In addition, since stakeholders are to provide input for this study, we would like to be added to the distribution list at the bottom of the resolution. We also recommend adding PATH Hawaii, PATH Kauai and the Maui Bicycle Alliance.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding resolutions SCR 76 and SR 32. We look forward to participating in the legislative process as one of the principal stakeholders.

Sincerely,

Robert Bengtson, President

TO:

Senator Kalani English, Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Members of the Committee on Transportation, International and

Intergovernmental Affairs

DATE:

Wednesday, February 16, 2010

FROM:

Natalie Iwasa aka Bicycle Mom

1331 Lunalilo Home Road

Honolulu, HI 96825

808-395-3233

HEARING: 1:15 p.m., February 17, 2010

SUBJECT:

SCR 76 and SR 32 – Support with Amendments

Aloha Senators,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify regarding SCR 76 and SR 32, which request the state Department of Transportation to coordinate a study and recommend changes to laws to accommodate the safe and proper operation of bicycles, segways and mopeds.

Bicycling is an effective and fun way to commute, do errands and get exercise. According to the League of American Bicyclists, bicycle commuting in Honolulu increased 23% from 2000 to 2008. With proper education, enforcement, engineering, encouragement and evaluation, we are certain to provide an environment in which people feel comfortable and confident riding bicycles on our roads. I therefore support this resolution with the following amendments.

Please substitute lines 6 through 9 with, "Whereas traditional bicycles powered solely by human muscles are an effective and efficient transportation option attractive to many commuters, others commuters over longer distances may prefer to use hybrid or power-assisted technologies; and".

In addition, since stakeholders are to be involved in providing input on this study, please include the following in the distribution list at the end of the resolution: Hawaii Bicycling League, PATH Hawaii, PATH Kauai and the Maui Bicycle Alliance.