



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

IN REPLY REFER TO:

February 7, 2011

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

HOUSE BILL NO. 916

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

The Department of Transportation supports HB 916, relating to parking for persons with disabilities. This bill will amend Section 249-31, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to increase motor vehicle registration fees by \$1.00 to offset the cost to pay for the parking placard program for persons with disabilities.

The Department of Transportation feels this fee is reasonable, and supports it, because it will help defray the costs of running the program and to continue to serve the disabled community. Rather than being 100% funded from the general fund, the placard-parking program will be supported by the new revenue source created from the \$1.00 increase in motor vehicle registrations. This new funding source will help to ensure the parking program continues to exist to provide the quality level of service.

The bill will also amend Section 348F-7 to allow the Director of Transportation to deposit \$1.00 into the accessible parking special account. The Department has no objections to collecting the fees and transferring the money to the special account within Disability and Communication Access Board and the Department of Health as we already handle a similar transaction for the emergency medical services fund.

We defer to DCAB regarding financial implications of the bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

## ichiyama3 - Cu Ri

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**From:** Lynn Murakami-Akatsuka [lkakatsu@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 04, 2011 4:21 PM  
**To:** TRNtestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB 916 on 2/7/2011 at 9:00 AM

Testimony for Committee on Transportation, 2/7/2011 at 9:00 AM

Conference room: 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](mailto:lkakatsu@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/4/2011

Comments: This bill will help to cover the costs of administering parking for persons with disabilities by increasing the annual vehicle registration fee by \$1. The funds will be deposited into an Accessible Parking Special Account within the Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) Special Fund. With the aging of the population and the projected increase in the number of individuals who are eligible for parking placards, the parking program for persons with disabilities will become a burden on the general fund. A nominal increase in the annual vehicle registration fee would place the cost upon the users and ensure the continuation of a quality parking program without draining general funds.

I am in strong support of HB 916. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

## ichiyama3 - Cu Ri

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**From:** TracyM09 [tracym09@me.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 04, 2011 4:57 PM  
**To:** TRNtestimony  
**Subject:** HB 916 Relating to Funding for Parking for Disabled Persons

Representative Joe Souki, Chair  
Committee on Transportation  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Monday, February 7, 2011

Re:Support for SB or HB 916, Relating to Funding for Parking for Disabled Persons

Dear Chair Souki and members of the Committee on Transportation,

My name is Tracy E. Moorhead, and I am a user of a parking placard for persons with disabilities, because I cannot walk a great distance due to my disability. I have had accessible parking spaces since 1991 because the spaces are closer to the entrances of buildings. If DCAB receives funding to make the parking for persons with disabilities program self-sustaining, the State would not have to use money from the general fund to support the program.

For the past 20 years I have gone to the Satellite City Hall to obtain my parking placards. It is very important for me to get these placards because I have a problem walking long distances. If there is no funding for the maintenance of this program it puts my independence in jeopardy.

To enable people with disabilities to remain as independent as possible to continue to go into the community to go the grocery store or use government services, it is important to be able to obtain and renew the parking permits for individuals with disabilities. Please allow this program to become self-supporting by creating a way for it to generate its own funds.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Tracy E. Moorhead

Parking Permit User

TO: House Committee on Transportation  
Monday, Feb. 7, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 309

**LATE TESTIMONY**

FROM: Kirby L. Shaw  
425 Ena Road, #706-A, Honolulu, HI 96815  
kirby@hawaiiantel.net, 944-0828

SUBJ: HB 916 - RELATING TO FUNDING FOR PARKING FOR DISABLED PERSONS

Rep. Joseph M. Souki, Chair  
Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Vice-Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Transportation  
Kirby L. Shaw – Individual with a disability, parking placard holder  
Monday, February 7, 2011

**RE: Support for HB 916 - Relating to Funding for Parking for Disabled Persons**

Dear Transportation Committee,

I have a physical disability and I use a power wheelchair. I have a van that deploys a ramp from its passenger side so I can easily enter/exit. However, I need to park in a parking space reserved for persons with disabilities that provides an adjacent access aisle to deploy the ramp. Because I have a parking placard, I am able to use such parking spaces. Thus, HB 916, Relating to Funding for Parking for Disabled Persons, is of significant interest to me.

**I am writing to express strong support for HB 916.** The bill raises the annual motor vehicle registration fee by \$1 for deposit into the Disability and Communication Access Board special fund to cover the costs of administering the disability parking program under Chapter 291, Part III, HRS.

The parking placard allows qualified persons with mobility impairments to park in parking spaces reserved for persons with disabilities; which provide (1) an adjacent space (access aisle) to deploy a mobility device (wheelchair, walker, etc.) and (2) a close distance to a facility's entrance for those with difficulty moving under their own power. The reserved spaces afford me and others with physical disabilities the opportunity to conduct business, buy groceries, see a movie at a theater, dine at a restaurant, buy tools at the hardware store, etc. The ability to park and exit/enter my vehicle removes a significant barrier that would otherwise prevent me and others from entering the types of transactions noted above.

Raising the annual registration fee by \$1 for each motor vehicle is a nominal amount to ensure that the disability parking program continues to give persons with disabilities the ability to generate economic activity and to participate in society. Importantly, **the proposed special fund would provide a stable funding source for the disability parking program and result in savings to the General Fund.**

Therefore, **I urge the committee to support this bill.** Thank you for considering my testimony. Mahalo nui.

Sincerely,

/s/  
KIRBY L. SHAW