

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



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

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

March 16, 2011

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SENATE BILL NO. 1416, S.D. 1

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

If the bill is passed, we request that the effective date be changed to January 1, 2013. This will allow us adequate time to order the 2016 stickers that will be needed to implement the bill. We try to have our stickers delivered by December 1st in order to give us time to distribute the stickers to the stations for use in January. The delivery date for the 2014 stickers will be 12/1/11. The 2014 stickers are needed to implement the two-year inspection period for new cars. With an estimated approval date of 6/24/11 for SB 1416, the earliest we could schedule the delivery of the 2015 and 2016 stickers is 12/1/2012.

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

PETER B. CARLISLE
MAYOR



GAIL Y. HARAGUCHI
DIRECTOR

DENNIS A. KAMIMURA
LICENSING ADMINISTRATOR

March 11, 2011

The Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Chair
and Committee Members
Committee on Transportation
House of Representatives
State of Hawaii
State Capitol, Room 426
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Souki and Committee Members:

Subject: S.B. No. 1416 SD1, Relating to Highway Safety

The City and County of Honolulu has concerns with S.B. No. 1416 SD1 which will increase the period of safety inspection for new vehicles from two to three years.

Although we concur that new vehicles are unlikely to experience major mechanical defects during the first three years after purchase, defects such as head lamps, stop lamps, signal lamps, expired registration, and expired vehicle liability insurance cards will not be discovered.

The City and County of Honolulu recommends that S.B. No. 1416 SD1 be held.

Sincerely,

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

Handwritten initials "for" in black ink, positioned to the left of the typed name.

Gail Y. Haraguchi
Director

TO: Members of the Committees on Transportation

FROM: Natalie Iwasa
aka Bike Mom
Honolulu, HI 96825
808-395-3233

HEARING: 9 a.m. Wednesday, March 16, 2011

SUBJECT: SB1416 SD1 Relating to Highway Safety - **OPPOSED**

Aloha Chair Souki, Vice Chair Ichiyama and Committee Members,

Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony in opposition to SB1416, which would exempt new vehicles from safety inspections for three years rather than the current two.

As a bicyclist, I oppose this measure and ask you to vote "no." One thing bicyclists rely on is being able to see through windows of parked vehicles in order to determine if a driver is sitting in them. It is important to determine if someone is in a car to assess the potential for the car door opening in front of the bicyclist, i.e., in order to avoid being "doored." If the length of time to the first safety inspection is increased by another year, more cars may be on the road with darker tinting than allowed.

Please vote "no" on this measure.

**Honorable Joseph Souki
Committee of Transportation
Hearing Wednesday 03/16/2011**

Re: SB 1416.SD1/Relating to Highway Safety

Date: March 15, 2011

The rationale for the subject bill is that all new cars are under warranty for at least three years.

However, of the 34 items that we inspect, only 4 are clearly under warranty.

The balance are:

A: wear out items like tires, brakes, windshield wipers.

B: failure items like all light bulbs.

C: legal items like registration and insurance

D: modification items like lowered suspension, exhaust, window tint.

E: broken items like cracked windshields or broken lenses.

To allow unsafe cars on the road with these potential defects is a danger to all of us.

Those of us who do these inspections can testify that even the present 2 year exception is stretching the limit of when vehicles need to be inspected.

To provide new car dealers with an additional selling tool does not justify endangering the public safety.

Bill Green, former owner and now consultant to Kahala Shell

PS I will be unable to attend the hearing as I serve as vice-chair on the Motor Vehicle Repair Board and their meeting conflicts with this hearing.