

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2011 10:39 AM
To: TIATestimony
Cc: owensn001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB828 on 1/28/2011 1:15:00 PM
Attachments: OpposeHelmetTestify.doc

Testimony for TIA 1/28/2011 1:15:00 PM SB828

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: David N. Owens
Organization: Individual
Address: 94-1009 Kanawao St. Waipahu, HI
Phone: 808-477-9576
E-mail: owensn001@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 1/28/2011

Comments:
Opposed to new bill concerning motorcycle & moped helmet laws.

This is unreal. Of all the risks and issues that need addressing in this state, it continues to amaze me that someone is focusing on something as simple as what grown, consenting, insured, adults choose to where when operating their own property – motorcycles and mopeds.

While I could understand mandating special safety controls for minors and/or those possessing a conditional or “learners” permit, I vehemently oppose legislation for the requirement for adults to wear a helmet.

Has anyone done their homework here to research the specifics? Like the fact that most D.O.T. certified helmets are rated to a maximum of 13.5mph. (Interestingly enough that is about the exact speed your head would be traveling if you stood up and merely fell forward or backward until it collided with the ground. What about the fact that many injuries and deaths have been the result of wearing a helmet? The head is snapped forward or backward quickly and the added weight of the helmet has contributed to a broken neck. Or when that helmet whips backward and the bottom rim of the helmet pushes up into the area where the skull and the spinal column intersect – and breaks the spin.

So many more immediate concerns would seem more a priority or a frequency of risk, such as passengers (adults, children, and even babies) riding in the back of pickups and box trucks where many are below the legal adult age to even intelligently be able to consider the risk and make the decision for themselves, or children below the legal age driving mopeds and motorized scooters all over the city/town streets, or even the repeated instances where we’ve all seen electric wheel-chairs driving down the roadways instead of using the sidewalks. We could also delve into the areas of automobile drivers needing helmets, safety inspections for autos/trucks, lack of insured drivers or even unlicensed drivers. (I’m sure all of the latter case numbers are much lower for motorcyclists.)

It is so easy to focus on one particular group, which is more conveniently targeted by those other individuals, many of whom do not participate in the subject activity of motorcycle/moped riding. Let’s please get back on track and apply a common sense approach to what we apply our government attentions and efforts toward in this day and age where budget, economy, military deployments, overcrowded roads/traffic, and poor road conditions throughout are the daily topics of conversation by your citizens and constituents.

Sincerely,

David N. Owens

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2011 11:40 AM
To: TIATestimony
Cc: brad59@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB828 on 1/28/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for TIA 1/28/2011 1:15:00 PM SB828

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Bradley Thomas
Organization: Individual
Address: 91-735 Kilaha street Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706
Phone: 8083725168
E-mail: brad59@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 1/28/2011

Comments:

Dear Legislators, If I didn't have to baby sit my Grandson today I would of shown up at this hearing to oppose this bill. There are far too many more important issues that should be addressed before anything else small like this stupid bill. How about using your time and energy more constructively to find ways to keep our kids in school and to support our schools and providing them with better resources to enrich our kids and Hawaii's community's futures. I oppose this bill, I believe it's the people's rights to decide for themselves whether they want to wear a helmet or not. Government needs to stop telling us how to run our lives. We are losing our rights and freedoms everyday because of stupid bills like this one. Thank you very much for your time and consideration in this matter. God Bless America for our Rights and Freedoms, Please don't take away them from us! This is why we elected you into office to help us not hurt us. Mahalo, Bradley Thomas

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2011 11:59 AM
To: TIATestimony
Cc: brad59@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB828 on 1/28/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for TIA 1/28/2011 1:15:00 PM SB828

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Bradley Thomas
Organization: Individual
Address: 91-735 Kilaha street Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706
Phone: 8083725168
E-mail: brad59@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 1/28/2011

Comments:

To add to my previous testimony earlier. States that have enacted helmets laws have not proven that helmets laws have decreased head injuries or fatalities involving motorcycle accidents and that it would better serve the public and riding community to promote Motorcycle awareness and Motorcycle safety training, instead of a Helmet Law that does not work. Motorcycles should be removed from bicycle helmet enforcement laws/legislation. In fact this why Florida abolished there helmet law that was in effect for many years. Please do the Right thing! Oppose this bill!! Thank You!!