

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 7:30 AM  
**To:** TRNtestimony  
**Cc:** robaroy@mac.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB1666 on 2/1/2012 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for TRN 2/1/2012 9:00:00 AM HB1666

Conference room: 309  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Robert Roy  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [robaroy@mac.com](mailto:robaroy@mac.com)  
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

**Comments:**

I am an avid cyclist who rides about 150 miles per week. I have had many close calls with motorists who give me dangerously little room, where one small change in direction on my part to avoid an obstacle could mean getting hit by these motorists. Most of our roads do not have adequate or safe shoulders and force cyclists onto the road in order to avoid obstacles. This is where many motorists come needlessly close to cyclists, often because they think they need to make a point that we should not be on "their" road. Vulnerable users as stated in the bill are at the mercy of motorists. This is an inherently unfair relationship made worse by aggressive and/or naive motorists.

Hawaii is among the worst in the nation for rates of fatality to cyclists and pedestrians, and negligent and aggressive driving are getting worse. The police and DOT have been against establishing a firm passing safety distance for cyclists (3 feet as proposed), so this measure addresses the consequences to drivers from a traffic violation in which a vulnerable user is seriously injured or killed. A maimed or killed innocent person is just as ruined from a negligent act as an intentional one, and it is just for the state to act to prevent and punish these acts with a sentence that is balanced with the injury done to the victim.

Spelling out consequences for negligence will go a long way to protecting vulnerable users and also send a message to motorists that vulnerable users do, indeed, have equal rights on our roadways.

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 7:53 AM  
**To:** TRNtestimony  
**Cc:** seatecks@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB1666 on 2/1/2012 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for TRN 2/1/2012 9:00:00 AM HB1666

Conference room: 309  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Charles Texeira  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [seatecks@yahoo.com](mailto:seatecks@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

**Comments:**

Aloha, as a pedestrian, bicyclist and a motorist, I urge the committee to pass this long over due bill. Mahalo.



## LATE TESTIMONY

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Testimony in Support of HB 1666 RELATING TO THE PENAL CODE  
Senate Transportation Committee 9 a.m. Rm 309 2/1/12 Senator Kalani English, Chair  
Submitted by Chad Taniguchi, Executive Director, Hawaii Bicycling League

### **Protect all vulnerable road users!**

The Hawaii Bicycling League, along with other bicycling and walking organizations statewide, asks all road users to heed Kamehameha's Law of the Splintered Paddle because "Everyone has the right to be safe on Hawaii's roads."

Mutual safety and concern for others is of utmost importance on the public roads for motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, and other users of our public road system. This is a shared space that we must use carefully. King Kamehameha decreed in 1797 that "everyone has the right to be safe on Hawaii's roads – including old and young, women and children." Mamalahoe Kanawai (Law of the Splintered Paddle).

Now 215 years later we have large, fast machines capable of killing instantly if the operators are not careful.

We extend our deepest condolences to the family of Officer Garret Davis, and to Chief Kealoha and members of the Honolulu Police Department, who daily risk their lives to protect our safety. It is a tragedy when anyone is killed or seriously injured on our public roads because these crashes can be avoided by obeying the speed limits and concentrating to adjust to changing conditions.

We support the proposed Vulnerable Road Users bill (HB 1666) that seeks to protect police, emergency road workers, pedestrians, bicyclists, and others who use the roads without a protective metal shell.

The Hawaii Bicycling League met and consulted with the Honolulu Police Department on drafts of this bill.

Please let me know if there are any questions.

*Ride Aloha! Drive Aloha!*

*Everyone has the right to be safe on Hawaii's roads.*

Mamalahoe Kanawai, Kamehameha's Law of the Splintered Paddle 1797, Hawaii state constitution 1978

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