LATE TESTIMONY

NEIL ABERCROMBIE GOVERNOR



919 Ala Moana Blvd. 4th Floor Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 JODIE F. MAESAKA-HIRATA DIRECTOR

MARTHA TORNEY

Deputy Director of Administration

JOE W. BOOKER, JR.
Deputy Director
Corrections

KEITH KAMITA Deputy Director Law Enforcement

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2030, HD 1
A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO
THE STATEWIDE TRAFFIC CODE
Jodie F. Maesaka-Hirata, Director
Department of Public Safety

House Committee on Judiciary
Representative Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Representative Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 14, 2012, 2:05 PM State Capitol, Room 325

Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Rhoads, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) supports House Bill 2030, HD 1 that proposes to require a motorist to move over one lane beyond a stationary emergency vehicle rendering assistance to another vehicle or person, or to slow down by twenty miles per hour less than the posted speed limit, or to five miles per hour if the posted limit is less than twenty-five miles per hour. A person's failure to either move over or slow down for a stationary emergency vehicle would be punishable as a misdemeanor.

The intent of this legislation is to provide safety for persons, commonly referred to as "first responder", who provide emergency roadside assistance from vehicles traveling by or on highways and roads that are often busy and have a very minimal area on the side of the traveling lanes to provide assistance.

HOUSE BILL 2030 February 14, 2012 Page 2

For the above reasons, PSD strongly supports the passage of H.B. 2030, HD 1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

869 PUNCHBOWL STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 14, 2012

GLENN M. OKIMOTO DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
JADE BUTAY
RANDY GRUNE
JADINE URASAKI

IN REPLY REFER TO:

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HOUSE BILL NO. 2030, H.D. 1 RELATING TO STATEWIDE TRAFFIC CODE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

The Department of Transportation supports HB 2030, H.D. 1 with the following concerns:

This bill is similar to the national movement for "move over laws" already implemented in the other 49 states in the United States. The intent of the "move over laws" is to enhance safety for personnel utilizing emergency vehicles while performing vital public safety and convenience tasks. The Department of Transportation (DOT) supports the objectives of the "move over law". Our concerns are as follows:

- 1. HB 2030 requires motorists who are unable to change lanes to slow down to a speed 20 miles per hour below the posted speed limit when the posted speed limit is 25 mph or more; or 5 mph when the posted speed limit is less than 25 mph. It would be impractical for vehicles to drive on several major roadways at 5 or 10 mph. Therefore, the DOT recommends that subsection (2) be revised as follows to be consistent with the majority of other State's "move over laws":
 - (2) If that action would be unsafe or impracticable, slow to a reasonable and prudent speed that is safe for existing weather, road, vehicular or pedestrian traffic concerns.
- 2. HB 2030, section (c) defines visual signals as "flashing vehicle emergency lights or any other reasonable visual means". The DOT recommends deleting "any other reasonable visual means" from the definition. By restricting visual signals to "flashing vehicle emergency lights", it would give the driver clear notice of what he is supposed to do.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



Testimony for HB2030 on 2/14/2012 2:05:00 PM

LATE TESTIMONY

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2012 1:39 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: sannemqk@gmail.com

Testimony for JUD 2/14/2012 2:05:00 PM HB2030

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Sherri Kamaka Organization: Individual E-mail: sannemqk@gmail.com Submitted on: 2/14/2012

Comments:

My apologies for not being able to be there in person.

Here is my testimony in honor of Office Davis:

I live in a condominium that was right above the crash that took Officer Davis' life. I will share with you my experience. It was horrific. The sound of the impact was like no other. It was so loud that you just knew that it was not a bumper to bumper type of accident or a flat tire. It made me jump up to see what had happended.

Officer Davis' vehicle was turned in the opposite direction than the traffic. 'The back of his car was already on fire. There was about 3 minutes of disbelief. Then, the men that tried to extinguish the fire to get him out of the car started their efforts. I called 911 but the call center was completely busy with calls. All I could do was reach out to my prayer team and have them start to pray for Officer Davis. My heart sank and I began to cry out of helplessness. If I could have jumped down 24 floors and go to him, I would have. The next thought I had was Oh my God! He is not getting out of the car. He is burning! Dear Jesus please take him home. Maybe the impact made him unconscience. Good, he can't feel it.

It was horrible! The next day, the feeling at the site was very sumber. I just shut down and slept most of the day. It affected me deeply.

Funny how we have to create laws to make people aware. But, that is what we have to do. We can't assume that people have good judgement or have commen sense. I support HB2030. We have to punish bad behavior. It is impossible to change or positively affect people's state of mind or state of being.

Testimony for HB2030 on 2/14/2012 2:05:00 PM

LATE TESTIMONY

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2012 1:51 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: DCuccia808@aol.com

Testimony for JUD 2/14/2012 2:05:00 PM HB2030

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Dorian Cuccia Organization: Individual E-mail: DCuccia808@aol.com Submitted on: 2/14/2012

Comments:

I support this bill whole heartedly. The carlesness of drivers today puts the brave individuals who come to our aid in great danger. This bill will secure measures to protect those who risk their own well being to protect us. Thank you for your attnetion. Sincerely, Dorian Cuccia



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

February 14, 2012

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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



Testimony for HB2030 on 2/14/2012 2:05:00 PM

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2012 12:31 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: Sannemqk@gmail.com

Testimony for JUD 2/14/2012 2:05:00 PM HB2030

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: Yes Submitted by: Sherri Kamaka Organization: Individual E-mail: Sannemqk@gmail.com Submitted on: 2/14/2012

Comments: