

## **FINTestimony**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**ent:** Thursday, February 23, 2012 10:00 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** rcblake@mac.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2789 on 2/24/2012 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for FIN 2/24/2012 11:00:00 AM HB2789

Conference room: 308  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Randall Blake  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [rcblake@mac.com](mailto:rcblake@mac.com)  
Submitted on: 2/23/2012

**Comments:**

Please help make our street safer. We cannot continue to accept a culture of disregard to the our laws because a law enforcement officer is not present. Let us help them with this proven method.

## **FINTestimony**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2012 10:00 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** rcblake@mac.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2789 on 2/24/2012 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for FIN 2/24/2012 11:00:00 AM HB2789

Conference room: 308  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Randall Blake  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [rcblake@mac.com](mailto:rcblake@mac.com)  
Submitted on: 2/23/2012

**Comments:**

Please help make our street safer. We cannot continue to accept a culture of disregard to the our laws because a law enforcement officer is not present. Let us help them with this proven method.

# OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRACTICES

STATE OF HAWAII  
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT BUILDING  
250 SOUTH HOTEL STREET, SUITE 107  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE: 808-586-1400 FAX: 808-586-1412  
EMAIL: oip@hawaii.gov

To: House Committee on Finance  
From: Cheryl Kakazu Park, Director  
Date: February 24, 2012, 11:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, Room 308  
Re: Testimony on H.B. No. 2789, H.D. 1  
Relating to Highway Safety

---

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on H.B. No. 2789, H.D. 1.

OIP takes no position on the substance of this bill, but is testifying to request that this Committee clarify a provision (on bill page 13, beginning at line 7) protecting “personal and confidential” information shared by a government agency with an agent of a county. The provision as written does not provide any standard to determine what sort of information is “personal and confidential.” OIP would suggest amending the provision to add a reference to the existing standards for what constitutes personal and confidential information in the Uniform Information Practices Act, chapter 92F, Hawaii Revised Statutes. This could be done by amending lines 8-9 to read: “All ~~[personal and confidential information]~~ information that would fall under an exception to public disclosure under chapter 92F made available by any government agency . . . .”

Thank you for considering OIP’s testimony.



3442 Waialae Ave., Suite 1, Honolulu, HI 96816 Office 808.735.5756 Fax 808.735.7989 [www.hbl.org](http://www.hbl.org)

Testimony in Support of HB 2789 RELATING TO HIGHWAY SAFETY  
House Finance Committee 11a.m. Rm 308 2/24/12  
Submitted by Chad Taniguchi, Executive Director, Hawaii Bicycling League

**Protect all road users from those who violate speed limits and endanger others!**

The Hawaii Bicycling League, along with other bicycling and walking organizations statewide, supports HB 2789 to allow photo speed imaging camera enforcement of drivers who violate speed limits. HB 2789 provides for fair, efficient law enforcement while freeing our police for other important tasks that can best be done by skilled officers. Photo speed cameras safely and accurately enforce speeding laws impartially.

The Hawaii Bicycling League asks all road users to heed Kamehameha's Law of the Splintered Paddle (decreed 1797) because "Everyone has the right to be safe on Hawaii's roads." Now 215 years later we have large, fast machines capable of killing instantly if the operators are not careful. We need to use technology to help control a minority of drivers who speed and endanger others.

We extend our deepest condolences to the families of Officers Garret Davis and Eric Fontes, 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.

Under current enforcement systems we are allowing more than 100 people to be killed on our roads each year. The number could be greatly reduced with photo speed imaging camera systems. When the mobile van cams were in effect drivers followed the speed limit but problems in implementation shut down the system. This bill allows fixed speed cameras where there is a history of speeding and avoids the pitfalls of the van cam system. If you are not speeding you will not get a speeding ticket!

As the State Highway Safety Council noted, 43% of traffic fatalities can be traced to speeding as a cause. Speed limits are determined by scientists and engineers as safe to operate vehicles with enough time to react on the roads. We all need to respect those limits as users. Let's use technology to prevent speeders who kill 43 of us each year by simply ticketing them, to remind them with an economic consequence that just as we don't tolerate killing other humans by guns, nor do we tolerate killing human beings by cars and trucks on the highways.

We can make it safe for everyone on Hawaii's roads.

*Ride Aloha! Drive Aloha!*

## **FINTestimony**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2012 12:26 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** mymunekata@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2789 on 2/24/2012 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for FIN 2/24/2012 11:00:00 AM HB2789

Conference room: 308  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Myra Munekata  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [mymunekata@gmail.com](mailto:mymunekata@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/23/2012

**Comments:**

Speeders endanger other road users by putting their convenience and time above those of other law abiding drivers, pedestrians and bicyclists.

I see no reason why we should not use the best camera technologies to enforce our laws in addition to the work of our police officers.

I teach kindergarten and impress upon our young children the need to help each other and not harm others.

Please pass this bill and protect our people.

## **FINTestimony**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2012 10:24 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** jgoody@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2790 on 2/24/2012 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for FIN 2/24/2012 11:00:00 AM HB2790

Conference room: 308  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: John Goody  
Organization: Hawaii Bicycling League  
E-mail: [jgoody@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:jgoody@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/23/2012

**Comments:**

Red light running is rampant in Hawaii. As a pedestrian I have had several close calls from people who simply disregard the light, and even accelerate through a red light, endangering other cars and pedestrians alike.

Red light cameras as used in other jurisdictions are long overdue, and will save lives. Please pass this measure.

## FINTestimony

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2012 10:24 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** jgoody@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2790 on 2/24/2012 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for FIN 2/24/2012 11:00:00 AM HB2790

Conference room: 308  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: John Goody  
Organization: Hawaii Bicycling League  
E-mail: [jgoody@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:jgoody@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/23/2012

**Comments:**

Red light running is rampant in Hawaii. As a pedestrian I have had several close calls from people who simply disregard the light, and even accelerate through a red light, endangering other cars and pedestrians alike.

Red light cameras as used in other jurisdictions are long overdue, and will save lives. Please pass this measure.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair  
Honorable Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

Re: House Bill No. 2789, H.D. 1 -- Relating to Highway Safety

Friday, February 24, 2012  
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 308  
11:00 a.m.

HONORABLE MARCUS R. OSHIRO, CHAIR, HONORABLE MARILYN B. LEE,  
VICE CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Milton Imada. I am a registered voter with a background in fleet maintenance and safety who also maintains a commercial driver's license. I am speaking in behalf of private and professional drivers who believe as I do.

We ask you to reject House Bill No. 2789, H.D. 1.

Spending hundred thousands of dollars on a camera system during a time of failing economy and high unemployment is irresponsible.

We rejected the initial December 2001 traffic camera Bill in its entirety and firmly opposed any and all forms of photo imaging cameras instead of using police officers.

Part II, Section -4, Paragraph (d) of this Bill discriminates against drivers of cars, trucks and buses because it does not provide an effective means to cite speeding motorcycles whose driver helmet visor (dark and clear) obscures driver identification. The absence of front license plates also prevents identification and contradicts the "safety" purpose of this Bill.

It is unconscionable when lawmakers become obsessed with spending taxpayers' monies to build the "son of van cam" that will pose to harass all drivers when the true problems causing the highway carnage are racing more than 30 miles per hour over the posted speed limits, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, weaving in and out of traffic lanes and following too close.



Highway cameras are a poor substitute for police officers who can immediately defuse a possible catastrophe down the roadway by pulling over a racing motorist or one who is driving carelessly. The officers can also identify alcohol and drug abuse or a medical emergency. Cameras will never replace police presence on the highways or roadways.

Traffic police officers here and on the mainland exercise discretion and have been known to allow up to 10 miles per hour over the posted speed limit before citing a driver. The lay of the road can change instantly and can affect a vehicle's speed without the driver's immediate knowledge. Speedometer errors will also affect a vehicle's speed. The safe flow of traffic is another consideration.

As we interpret this Bill, anyone with the exception of motorcycle operators traveling one mile per hour over the speed limit will be cited with no allowance for speedometer errors that are inherent in the design of motor vehicles. The speedometer inadequacy was proven to the House Transportation Committee and its Chair Joseph Souki when a representative from car dealerships confirmed it to be true during a previous hearing related to this same subject matter that I took part in.

This flawed highway camera system imposed in haste will be able to write two tickets per second sounds like a cunning way to increase the State's general fund.

Hawaii drivers do not drive like drivers on the mainland, therefore, we do not deserve to be harassed or treated in the same manner. We want to keep Hawaii a very special place without becoming photo targets and unwilling benefactors.

We ask you not to impose this unpopular, band aid solution in lieu of spending wisely and responsibly taxpayers' monies for additional police officers to compensate for our growing population and increased traffic. More officers can allow the police department to once again maintain a meaningful presence on our highways and intersections

Photo imaging cameras will instill driver fear and paranoia as drivers become obsessed with focusing on speedometers to maintain precise speeds while looking for the cameras. These drivers will be distracted from applying other safe driving techniques. Bad weather and worsening traffic conditions make the situation more stressful.

This Bill is bad law and will open a Pandora's box with growing negativity infringing on our rights to privacy and lead Hawaii down a dangerous path of eroding civil liberties.

Insurance companies will treat law abiding drivers with ten or more years of safe driving records like criminals by raising their premiums forever for being cited by photo cameras driving one mile per hour over the speed limit. These drivers may contest the citations in court.

If you insist on imposing this Bill, we suggest the following:

1. Provide a 10 mile per hour allowance for speedometer errors and the lay of the land which may quickly increase the speed of a vehicle without the driver's knowledge.

2. Provide that warnings be issued in lieu of citations for photo camera violations up to 10 miles per hour over the posted speed limit, considering that when insurance premiums go up drivers will drive without insurance.

3. Provide that a violation for which a civil penalty is imposed under this Bill for the first 10 miles per hour be treated the same as a seat belt and child restraint violation to prevent insurance companies raising premiums.

4. Increase our police force to compensate for the growing population resulting in more vehicles on our roadway.

5. In lieu of photo imaging, we suggest creating a part time police traffic detachment dedicated to highway and intersection safety with the following considerations:

- A. Hire our already trained, qualified volunteer police officers.
- B. Hours of work not to exceed part time status.

C. Duties will be confined to maintaining roadway and intersection safety.

6. The monies you spend on this project can be better spent on repairing Oahu's infrastructure, repairing, rebuilding and modernizing schools, preventing drug abuse, resurfacing roadways, boosting our failing economy and aiding victims of failed airlines and businesses, etc.

7. Please refrain from enacting this flawed and discriminatory photo speed imaging detector system, which will impose upon the financial security of many, undeserving citizens while exempting the drivers of motorcycles from being cited for speeding.

There is no Aloha spirit in photo traffic enforcement.

Thank you. We look forward to your support.