

LATE TESTIMONY

HR 95 MVCRG Support

I am writing on behalf of the Motor Vehicle Crash Reduction Group (MVCRG) an Island wide group on Hawaii Island working to reduce traffic deaths and injuries on Hawaii Island and in Hawaii State. As you know, reducing impaired driving is essential to reducing traffic deaths and severe injuries, since about one half of Hawaii's traffic deaths are alcohol related. Although ignition interlock implementation has helped to reduce drunken driving deaths, the current laws were insufficient to prevent the deaths of the 100 people who died from traffic crashes in 2011. Too many of the drunk driving deaths and arrests are for drivers who do not have a license. Immobilization of vehicles driven by those who are impaired and do not have a license worked well in Canada. We strongly support this resolution to authorize a work group to assess and make recommendation on how to effectively use immobilization to make Hawaii roads safer for our families, friends, co-workers and visitors.

Sincerely, Sharon Vitousek MD, facilitator MVCRG