

SB 2447

RELATING TO HIGHWAY SAFETY.

Extends the period in which an owner of a new car is exempted from obtaining a certificate of vehicle inspection from two years to three years from the date of purchase. Takes effect 1/1/2015.



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

February 1, 2012

**SB 2447
RELATING TO HIGHWAY SAFETY**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

The Department of Transportation opposes SB 2247 and cites Governor's Message 1146 of 2011.

There are times when a new car that is sold does not meet the current Hawaii inspection requirements. Our Motor Vehicle Safety Office has at times received complaints from new car owners pertaining to something as simple as a burned out brake lamp that was not detected when their new car was inspected by a new car dealer. Invariably, the inspector claims that the lamp burned out after the inspection was completed. If a lamp burns out that quickly, then it is possible that a few lamps will burn out or other more potentially serious things may go wrong in the present two year interval of new car inspections. Drivers drive their vehicles differently and accumulate mileage at different rates. Car dealers cannot guarantee that a new car will not need new tires after one or two years because they have no control over the way people drive their cars or the distances they drive them. It is not uncommon that motorists will neglect to check their vehicle's lamps, tires and other items that are normally inspected during a periodic inspection. Neither is it uncommon for owners to modify their vehicles.

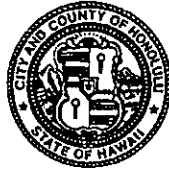
Hawaii has one of the least expensive inspection programs in the country, and stations are well dispersed throughout the state. We do not believe that requiring a two-year old vehicle to go through an inspection is an unreasonable requirement to ensure that the vehicles on our roads are safe for Hawaii's residents and visitors.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES
CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU
DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLE, LICENSING AND PERMITS
ADMINISTRATION
P.O. BOX 30300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96820-0300

PETER B. CARLISLE
MAYOR



GAIL Y. HARAGUCHI
DIRECTOR

DENNIS A. KAMIMURA
LICENSING ADMINISTRATOR

January 30, 2012

The Honorable J. Kalani English, Chair
and Committee Members
Committee on Transportation and International Affairs
The Honorable Will Espero, Chair
and Committee Members
Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations
and Military Affairs
The Senate
State of Hawaii
State Capitol, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair English, Chair Espero and Committee Members:

Subject: S.B. No. 2447, Relating to Highway Safety

The City and County of Honolulu has concerns with S.B. No. 2447 which will increase the period of safety inspection for new vehicles from two to three years.

Although we concur that new vehicles are unlikely to experience major mechanical defects during the first three years after purchase, defects such as head lamps, stop lamps, signal lamps, expired registration, and expired vehicle liability insurance card have been discovered under the current 2-year program. It is very likely that such defects would not be discovered if new vehicles were allowed a 3-year safety inspection period.

The City and County of Honolulu recommends that S.B. No. 2447 be held.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis A. Kamimura".

Dennis A. Kamimura
Licensing Administrator

GOODSILL ANDERSON QUINN & STIFEL

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP LLP

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TO: Senator J. Kalani English
Chair, Committee on Transportation and International Affairs
Senator Will Espero
Chair, Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military
Affairs
Via Email: TIAtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

FROM: Christine Karamatsu

DATE: January 31, 2012

RE: **S.B. No. 2447 – Relating to Highway Safety**
Hearing Date: Wednesday, February 1, 2012 at 1:15 p.m.
Room 224

Dear Chairs English and Espero and Members of the Committees:

I am Christine Karamatsu, representing EAN Holdings, LLC, which operates Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Alamo Rent-A-Car and National Car Rental in Hawaii (collectively referred to as “Enterprise”).

Enterprise **supports** S.B. 2447, which extends the period in which an owner of a new car is exempted from obtaining a certificate of inspection from two years to three years from the date of purchase.

Cars in Enterprise’s Hawai‘i fleet are generally used for only 16-18 months and average less than 36,000 miles before they are replaced. This ensures that only the newest and safest cars are made available to our customers. For those cars in our fleet older than two years, extending the certificate of inspection renewal period would reduce the administrative and financial burden of inspecting these vehicles.

We believe this measure achieves a good balance of streamlining government without compromising the safety of all drivers on Hawaii’s roads.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



Hawaii Automobile Dealers' Association



Nick Cutter, President
Dave Rolf, Executive Director

January 31, 2012

Testimony Relating to Highway Safety
With STRONG SUPPORT for SB2447

Presented to the Senate Committees on Transportation and International Affairs and Public Safety,
Government Operations, and Military Affairs

At the hearing 1:15 p.m., Wednesday February 1, 2012
in conference room 224, Hawaii State Capitol

Submitted by David H. Rolf, for the Hawaii Automobile Dealers Association
Hawaii's Franchised New Car Dealers

Chair English, Chair Espero and members of the committees

The members of the Hawaii Automobile Dealers Association, Hawaii's new car dealers, are in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 2447 which proposes to extend the effective period of the new vehicle safety inspection from its current two years to three years.

We appreciate Senator Donna Mercado Kim's introduction of the bill and are pleased to see the large number of Senate co-sponsors of measure.

HADA's role is to help auto dealers comply with the laws, so as to make car buying and servicing by the general public...trouble free.

Nowadays, new car warranties extend 36 months and longer so owners maintain their vehicles in top shape because cost are covered by the new car warranty.

The necessity for a safety inspection in the third is thus de minimis.

Time and cost for the redundant safety inspection for the third year is thus eliminated.

HADA respectfully requests that the committee members pass SB2447.

Respectfully submitted David H. Rolf

For the Hawaii Automobile Dealers Association, Hawaii's franchised new car dealers,
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