

SB 804

RELATING TO BICYCLE SAFETY.

Requires the operator of a bicycle to provide an audible warning by bell, horn, or other sound emitting mechanism when approaching and overtaking a pedestrian on a sidewalk or sidewalk area.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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OUR REFERENCE KK-LC

January 28, 2013

The Honorable J. Kalani English, Chair
and Members
Committee on Transportation
and International Affairs
State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
514 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair English and Members:

Subject: **Senate Bill No. 804**, Relating to Bicycle Safety

I am Kurt Kendro, Major of the Traffic Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD opposes the passage of Senate Bill No. 804, Relating to Bicycle Safety. The passage of this bill would require that an operator of a bicycle would have to sound a warning when approaching and overtaking a pedestrian on a sidewalk or sidewalk area.

Riding a bicycle on a sidewalk in a business district is already illegal by statute because of the dangerous combination of pedestrians and cyclists. If this bill were to pass, it would mean that a young child riding a bicycle on a sidewalk in a residential area would be subject to a citation for a violation of this statute. Finally, the language in the existing statute already mandates that the operator of a bicycle shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kurt Kendro".

KURT KENDRO, Major
Traffic Division

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louis M. Kealoa".

LOUIS M. KEALOHA
Chief of Police

SB804

Submitted on: 1/24/2013


Testimony for TIA on Jan 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bob Ward	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: There are at least 7 reasons I oppose SB 804 as drafted: 1. Does not meet intent of ADA - deaf and hearing impaired are not provided for. 2. Fails several US DOT mandates by requiring an aftermarket device on a vehicle. 3. No specification as to volume tricycle spring bell (40dB to 50dB) or Air Zound (120dB+). Whatever happened to a polite "On your left"? 4. Perpetuates bicycles on "Sidewalks" (except undefined "Business Districts") - Very Dangerous! 5. Also applies to "Sidewalk Area" this is defined in HRS and includes everything outside the edge line: includes every shoulder on every highway in the state! 6. Expands 10 mph Speed Limit to the same "Sidewalk Area" including Shoulder Bikeways – Very Dangerous! 7. Perpetuates practice of pedestrians not facing traffic – Very Dangerous!

SB804

Monday, January 28, 2013
9:05 AM

Subject	Submitted testimony for SB804 on Jan 28, 2013 13:15PM
From	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To	TIATestimony
Cc	metroben@me.com
Sent	Monday, January 28, 2013 9:03 AM
Attachments	 SB804

SB804

Submitted on: 1/28/2013

Testimony for TIA on Jan 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ben Robinson	Individual	Oppose	No

Aloha!

I am writing to oppose this measure as its unenforceable and unnecessary. Let's work make Honolulu more bicycle-friendly, and then work to keep bicycles off sidewalks instead of making insignificant laws.

Mahalo

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