

SB 955

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 1/1/2016.



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

February 4, 2013
1:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

S.B. 955
RELATING TO HIGHWAY SAFETY

Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs and
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

The Department of Transportation **supports** Senate Bill 955, Relating to Highway Safety.

This bill proposes to extend the period between the first and second inspection of a new motor vehicle from two years to three years. Section 1 states that new cars sold in Hawaii typically have a three year warranty. The warranty will certainly assist owners with keeping their vehicles in safe operating condition.



**Testimony of
Christine Karamatsu
on behalf of
EAN Holdings, LLC**

DATE: February 3, 2013

TO: Senator J. Kalani English
Chair, Committee on Transportation and International Affairs
TIAtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

RE: **S.B. 955 – Relating to Highway Safety**
Hearing Date: Monday, February 4, 2013 at 1:15 pm
Conference Room 224

Dear Chair English and Members of the Committee on Transportation and International Affairs:

I am **Christine Karamatsu**, testifying on behalf of EAN Holdings, LLC, operating Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Alamo Rent-A-Car and National Car Rental in Hawaii (collectively referred to as **“Enterprise”**).

Enterprise **supports S.B. 955**, 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 generally average less than 2 years and 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 that may be 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 submit testimony on this measure.

Gary M. Slovin
Mihoko E. Ito
Christine Ogawa Karamatsu
Tiffany N. Yajima

1099 Alakea Street, Suite 1400
Honolulu, HI 96813
(808) 539-0840



February 1, 2013

Re: Oppose SB955

Aloha Honorable Chairs and Senators of the TIA/PSM and WAM committees,

I am **opposed to SB955** which 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.

I have been a certified State of Hawaii Periodic Motor Vehicle Inspector and a State of Hawaii Licensed Mechanic since 1974.

Regardless of age, vehicles may have defects, some obvious, some not. In general, vehicles will wear at different rates depending on use (eg. rent a cars, taxis, service and delivery vehicles), driver habits, road conditions, and distances traveled. However, not knowing which vehicles have defects, all vehicles should be inspected on a yearly basis using the same set of rules and regulations to ensure safety for the general public. Age should not be the premise to allow for discrimination and an exemption.

This bill appears to be under the assumption that a new vehicle will not have any safety defects and because it has a three year thirty six thousand mile new car warranty. The safety of a vehicle has nothing to do with age or a manufacturer's warranty.

Some car manufacturers claim a 10 year or 100,000 mile warranty. Does this mean the vehicle will not have any safety issues and that the new car dealer will be responsible for the safety of the vehicle for 10 years or 100,000 miles?

Most warranties do not cover some crucial safety items such as brakes and tires. Will the new car dealer accept responsibility for safety, illegal modifications such as lifted trucks, tinted windows and windshields, insurance and registration compliance during this period?

Taking the vehicle to a new car dealer or any repair facility for an oil change or tire rotation doesn't necessarily mean it will be thoroughly and properly inspected by a certified safety inspector according to state rules and regulations.

How often will the new car dealers and rental companies inspect new vehicles for safety? What if the owner doesn't visit the new car dealer at all? This bill will allow the first inspection when new and the next one in three years and possibly 50,000 miles later.

Most owners are diligent and will care for their vehicle as best they can but may not know how to properly inspect a vehicle and/or be aware of any deficiencies until it is brought to their attention by the safety inspection process.

The \$14.70 fee and the time it takes to complete the safety inspection is a small price to pay to ensure safety. If it can save one life, it will be worth it.

Please do not allow this bill to move forward for the sake of myself, my family and everyone else.

Thank you.

Paul Hanada
Owner

SB955

Monday, February 04, 2013

6:52 AM

Subject	*Submitted testimony for SB955 on Feb 4, 2013 13:15PM*
From	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To	TIATestimony
Cc	lloydschevron@hawaii.rr.com
Sent	Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:31 PM

SB955

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for TIA/PSM on Feb 4, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brigid Heirakuji	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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