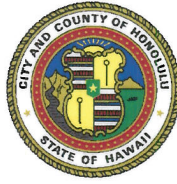


DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
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March 27, 2014

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means
State Senate
State Capitol, Room 208
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Ige and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: Testimony on House Bill No. 1706, HD 1
Relating to Illegal Parking Upon Bikeways

I am Michael D. Formby, Director of the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) of the City and County of Honolulu.

The Department of Transportation Services strongly supports House Bill 1706, HD 1. The purpose of this measure is to provide greater enforcement of the existing HRS 291C-123(a) relating to illegal driving and parking on bikeways by increasing the minimum fine to \$200.

The current minimum fine of \$35 has proven insufficient to deter motorists from blocking bicycle lanes and bicycle paths. As the City and County of Honolulu continues to implement the Oahu Bike Plan and expand the number of bike paths and lanes, there will be greater use of bicycling as a viable and regular mode of travel. Obstruction of bicycle lanes and paths by motorists is a safety hazard and a danger to bicyclists and all neighborhood residents.

In response to prior concerns regarding motorists needing to cross bike lanes to make turn or merge movements, this issue has not been expressed in citations and law enforcement officers understand permitted movements. Typically, with but a few exceptions (which are being eliminated), "conflict zones" in bike lanes are represented by hatched white lines signaling to motorists that they may cross over the bike lane with caution. In 2014, DTS intends to start painting conflict zones with green paint, further highlighting safety concerns with these portions of bike lanes. These changes in operational policy should not, however, frustrate the legitimate purpose of HB 1706,

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HD 1. The overwhelming majority of citations issued under HRS 291C-123(a) are associated with motorists who park their cars on bike lanes, not motorists who cross over bike lanes.

If I can answer any questions or be of further assistance, please let me know. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1706, HD 1.

Very truly yours,



Michael D. Formby
Director