

# **SB 2902**

Expands authority of the director of transportation over required motor vehicle and motor carrier vehicle inspections in the State.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



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

February 11, 2014  
1:16 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 224

**S.B. 2902  
RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTIONS**

Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs

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The Department of Transportation **supports** this Administration Bill which expands the authority of the Director of Transportation for required motor vehicle and motor carrier vehicle inspections in the State. This bill will allow the Director to make changes to the inspection programs by administrative rules rather than legislation. This will be a more efficient means of making changes while still allowing for input from the public.

This bill also deletes all of the insurance information required to be placed on an inspection certificate except for the expiration date. With the implementation of an electronic inspection form program, digital images of insurance cards can be made and stored by inspection stations. The image can easily be retrieved if an inspector is suspected of not checking the card or accepting a fraudulent card. Putting only the expiration date on the inspection certificate will minimize the data entry required by inspectors while providing the most important data on the certificate.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony.

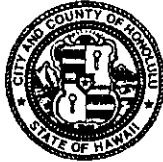
Testimony of  
GLENN M. OKIMOTO  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI  
RANDY GRUNE  
AUDREY HIDANO  
JADINE URASAKI

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

KIRK CALDWELL  
MAYOR



SHERI T. KAJIWARA  
DIRECTOR

PRESTON P. H. K. KO  
ACTING LICENSING ADMINISTRATOR

TESTIMONY OF PRESTON KO, ACTING LICENSING ADMINISTRATOR  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES  
Tuesday, February 11, 2014, 1:16 p.m., Conference Room 224

SENATE Bill 2902, "RELATING TO Motor Vehicle Inspections"

Position: Support

TO: The Honorable J. Kalani English, Chair  
and Members of the Committee on Transportation and International Affairs

The City and County of Honolulu agrees with the intent and purpose of S.B. 2902 which provides for several amendments to the vehicle inspection statutes.

The City and County of Honolulu recommends your favorable consideration to S.D. No. 2902.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Preston P. H. K. Ko", is written over a faint circular stamp.

Preston P. H. K. Ko  
Acting Licensing Administrator

Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association  
1030 15th Street, NW Suite 500 East Washington, DC 20005  
Tel 202.393.6362 Fax 202.737.3742 E-mail info@mema.org



February 10, 2014

The Honorable J. Kalani English  
Chair  
Senate Committee on Transportation  
and International Affairs  
Hawaii Senate  
415 South Beretania St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

The Honorable Vice-Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Transportation  
and International Affairs  
Hawaii Senate  
415 South Beretania St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair English and Vice Chair Dela Cruz:

The Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association (MEMA) represents more than 1,000 member companies that manufacture motor vehicle parts for use in the light- and heavy-duty original equipment and aftermarket industries. Motor vehicle parts manufacturers are the nation's largest manufacturing sector, directly employing 734,000 people across the country. MEMA represents its members through four divisions: Automotive Aftermarket Suppliers Association (AASA); Heavy Duty Manufacturers Association (HDMA); Motor & Equipment Remanufacturers Association (MERA); and, Original Equipment Suppliers Association (OESA).

MEMA's aftermarket division, the Automotive Aftermarket Suppliers Association (AASA), exclusively represents the North American aftermarket supplier industry, with a goal to help its members be more profitable, innovative and competitive on a global scale. On behalf of this industry, I urge the Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs to support S.B. 2902.

Neglecting routine maintenance and replacement of vehicle safety components is dangerous for the motoring public. Strong vehicle safety inspection programs, such as the program in Hawaii, maintain the safety of vehicles by keeping vehicles that do not pass inspection and are unsafe off streets and highways. **S.B. 2902** will ensure that Hawaii vehicles continue to be properly maintained in order to remain safe. The legislation will also allow greater flexibility in the implementation of the existing program as technologies and needs of the motoring public change.

The importance and efficacy of safety inspection programs has been reinforced by federal recommendations and studies conducted by state agencies. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) recommends that each state implement a periodic vehicle safety inspection program to "reduce the number of vehicles with existing or potential conditions" that cause or contribute to crashes in the Uniform Guidelines for State Highway Safety Programs.

State agency studies, including those published by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (March 2009) and the Missouri State Highway Patrol (November 2008), demonstrate that safety inspection programs can and do save lives every year.

The Pennsylvania study estimated that the state will have between 115 and 169 fewer fatal crashes each year due to its safety inspection program, corresponding to between 127 and 187 fewer fatalities annually. The largest difference between states with and without programs in which an equipment failure caused or contributed to a crash occurred for vehicles that were three years of age or older.





The Missouri study reached a similar conclusion in comparing nationwide crash causation to state crash causation. The Missouri data demonstrated that crashes with a vehicle defect causation factor were lower in the state, which has a robust program, compared to the nation. In Missouri, a defect was a causation factor in one out of every 131.2 fatal crashes. Nationwide, a vehicle defect was a causation factor in one out of every 79.7 fatal crashes over the same period.

Safety inspections are becoming more important as consumers keep vehicles longer and unperformed and underperformed vehicle maintenance increases. Nationally, the average age of passenger cars and light trucks combined is now 11.4 years, which has been rising steadily for more than 15 years. At the same time, AASA estimates \$66 billion worth of vehicle maintenance was unperformed or underperformed in 2012. As these trends continue, the highway safety benefits of robust annual vehicle safety inspection programs will increase in the coming years.

In closing, MEMA urges the Committee to support this important bill. Should you or your staff have any additional questions, please feel free to contact Catherine Boland, Vice President, Legislative Affairs, at 202-312-9241 or [cboland@mema.org](mailto:cboland@mema.org).

I thank you for your valued support in this vital safety matter

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ann Wilson".

Ann Wilson  
Senior Vice President, Government Affairs



February 11, 2014

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
TRANSPORTATION & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS  
ON SB 2902 RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTIONS**

Thank you Chair English and committee members. I am Gareth Sakakida, Managing Director of the Hawaii Transportation Association (HTA) with over 400 transportation related members throughout the state of Hawaii.

HTA supports this bill to add flexibility and expediency to the vehicle inspection program.

Thank you.