



Testimony by:
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
JADE T. BUTAY
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

February 10, 2016
10:00AM
State Capitol, Room 309

H.B. 2723
RELATING TO MOBILE ELECTRONIC DEVICES

House Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.B. 2723. This bill would prohibit a pedestrian from crossing a street, road, or highway while using a mobile electronic device.

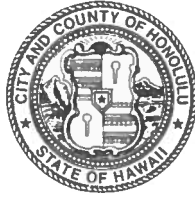
Distraction's impact on pedestrian safety is not just a motorist problem. A report published by the Governor's Highway Safety Association (GHSA) in August 2015 indicated that several researches have been done on distracted walking. These researchers conclude that there is an uptick in distracted walkers. Pedestrians killed while using a cell phone increased from less than 1 percent to 3.6 percent between 2004 and 2010. It is also estimated that as many as two million pedestrian injuries were related to cell phone use in 2010. Like a driver using the cell phone, a divided attention condition would also exist in the pedestrian when talking or texting or wearing headphones. As a result of this uptick of distracted walkers, a new phrase has been coined in the Urban Dictionary, 2009 as "pretextrian." Besides being oblivious to their surroundings, the pretextrian will also take longer to cross the street. The end result of these distractions puts the pretextrian more at a risk of being injured resulting from an accident.

The DOT urges your support in passing H.B. 2723 as it is time to expand the focus on the dangers of impairment and distraction to include pedestrians.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR

LOUIS M. KEALOHA
CHIEF

MARIE A. McCAULEY
CARY OKIMOTO
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE DI-GR

February 10, 2016

The Honorable Henry J. C. Aquino, Chair
and Members
Committee on Transportation
House of Representatives
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Aquino and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 2723, Relating to Mobile Electronic Devices

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

The HPD supports the passage of House Bill No. 2723, Relating to Mobile Electronic Devices.

Distracted pedestrians can be a factor in collisions. The passage of this bill could help to reduce pedestrian injuries and deaths.

The HPD urges you to support House Bill No. 2723, Relating to Mobile Electronic Devices.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darren Izumo", is written over a horizontal line.

Darren Izumo, Major
Traffic Division

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louis M. Kealoha", is written over a horizontal line.

Louis M. Kealoha
Chief of Police

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 7:29 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: dkapua@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2723 on Feb 10, 2016 10:00AM*

LATE

HB2723

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for TRN on Feb 10, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai	Individual	Support	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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 7:20 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: sean_ishii99@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2723 on Feb 10, 2016 10:00AM



HB2723

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for TRN on Feb 10, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sean H Ishii	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose subsection 1.d of HB 2723. I believe that outlawing pedestrians to cross a street while using a mobile electronic device will not make the streets safer for pedestrians. Law enforcement resources will be wasted enforcing this law. Instead there should be greater focus in upgrading or modifying existing infrastructure to slow down cars and increase visibility for pedestrians. These could include but not be limited to building traffic circles, building bulb-outs at intersections, reducing lane widths, dedicating exclusive pedestrian crossing period at intersections within a stop-light cycle as is done in Waikiki, building cycle tracks, and possibly even reducing the number of lanes in high pedestrian traffic areas. I believe changing driver and pedestrian behavior toward safety is better effected through an infrastructure change rather than creating laws that are effectively unenforceable by cost or by nature.

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