SB1334

RELATING TO OPERATING A VEHICLE WHILE INTOXICATED.

Allows law enforcement officers to seize and tow a motor vehicle if operator is arrested or cited for various alcohol-related traffic offenses.



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 12, 2015 2:45 p.m. State Capitol, Room 229

S.B. 1334 RELATING TO OPERATING A VEHICLE WHILE INTOXICATED

Senate Committee(s) on Transportation
And Public Safety, Intergovernmental & Military Affairs

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** S.B. 1334 relating to operating a vehicle while intoxicated. This bill will allow law enforcement officers to seize and tow a motor vehicle if the operator is arrested or cited for various alcohol-related traffic offenses.

By giving the authority for police to tow the vehicle upon arrest for driving intoxicated, it will be a strong deterrent for drivers to think about driving after drinking.

The DOT urges your support in passing S.B. 1334 as it gives a strong message for those who continue to drink and drive.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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KIRK W. CALDWELL MAYOR



LOUIS M. KEALOHA CHIEF

DAVE M. KAJIHIRO MARIE A. McCAULEY DEPUTY CHIEFS

CT-GR

OUR REFERENCE

February 12, 2015

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair and Members
Committee on Transportation
The Honorable Will Espero, Chair and Members
Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Nishihara and Espero and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 1334, Relating to Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated

I am Calvin Tong, Major of the Traffic Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu. The HPD supports the passage of Senate Bill No. 1334, Relating to Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated.

The passage of this bill will allow law enforcement officers to tow a motor vehicle if the operator is arrested or cited for various alcohol-related traffic offenses. Oftentimes the offending motorist is stopped on a freeway or other public roadway that may cause an obstruction or hazard to traffic. This bill will allow the offending motorist's vehicle to be towed without the need for his or her consent.

The HPD urges you to support Senate Bill No. 1334, Relating to Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely.

CALVIN TONG, Major Traffic Division

APPROVED:

LOUIS M. KEALOHA

Chief of Police

From: <u>mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov</u>

To: <u>TRA Testimony</u>
Cc: <u>jkollar@kauai.gov</u>

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1334 on Feb 12, 2015 14:45PM

Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 9:08:49 AM

SB1334

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for TRA/PSM on Feb 12, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Justin F. Kollar	County of Kauai Office of the Prosecuting Attorney	Support	Yes

Comments: We support for the reasons stated in the testimony of the Hawaii County Prosecuting Attorney.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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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STATE HIGHWAY SAFETY COUNCIL

Thursday, February 12, 2015 2:45 PM

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTAION

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Senator Will Espero, Chair Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

Dear Chairs, Vice Chairs, and members of both Committees,

Subject: Support SB 1334

The State Highway Safety Council <u>supports SB 1334</u>, which establishes a three-year pilot photo red light imaging detector system program.

According to FARS 2006-2010, there were 7 fatalities attributed to red light running. Red light cameras have been studied for over 12 years. As of February of 2015, Insurance Institute for Highway Safety reports that 469 communities across the U.S have red light camera programs. In the review of the effectiveness of red-light cameras, the negatives are that they could increase rear-end crashes, the positives are that they could reduce side-impact crashes, and could reduce overall crash severity at the locations the cameras are placed and publicized. Cameras were found to be most beneficial at intersections with a known higher ratio of angle crashes to rearend crashes.

The State Highway Safety Council (SHSC) advises the DOT on matters relating to the programs and activities of the State in the field of highway safety. SHSC members include representatives from public, private, and all four counties.

Thank you for allowing us to testify.

Sincerely,

Kari Benes, Co-Chair State Highway Safety Council

¹http://www.iihs.org/iihs/topics/laws/automated_enforcement?topicName=redlight-running

² WHO. (2004) World Report on Road Traffic Injury prevention. Geneva, Switzerland.: World Health Organization.



Mothers Against Drunk Driving HAWAII
745 Fort Street, Suite 303
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone (808) 532-6232
Fax (808) 532-6004
hi.state@madd.org

February 10, 2015

To: Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair, Senate Committee on

Transportation; Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair, and members of the

Committee

&

Senator Will Espero, Chair, Senate Committee on Public Safety,

Intergovernmental and Military Affairs; Senator Rosalyn Baker, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee

From: Arkie Koehl/Carol McNamee—Co-chairmen, Public Policy Committee -

MADD Hawaii

Re: Senate Bill 1334 – Relating to Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated

I am Arkie Koehl, offering testimony on behalf of the Hawaii Chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving in <u>support</u> of Senate Bill 1334. This measure allows the towing and impoundment of vehicles being driven by intoxicated drivers and by drivers whose license has been revoked for OVUII.

Towing and impoundment are penalties generically referred to as "vehicle sanctions." Such sanctions are favored by many impaired driving researchers, by organizations such as MADD, and by the National Highway Safety Traffic Administration (NHTSA). The threat of surrendering a vehicle, even temporarily, has been shown to not only deter illegal drivers, but also owners asked to let such a driver borrow their car.

During informal discussions held last year among participants from MADD, HPD, the Honolulu City Council and All Island Towing, many logistical issues were clarified, resulting in general consensus that a program of towing and impoundment could be executed realistically and effectively, at least on Oahu.

We encourage the committee to pass SB 1334. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.