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IN REPLY REFER TO:

February 25, 2016
1:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 211

S.B. 2715, S.D. 1
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

The Department of Transportation **opposes** S.B. 2715, S.D. 1 which would require motor vehicles safety inspections to be conducted every two years rather than annually.

The objective of the inspection program is to keep the number of defects in the vehicle population at a minimum with the expectation that this will help keep the number of crashes and breakdowns caused by defects to a minimum.

In 1988 Congress had the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) study state inspection programs to determine whether they improve highway safety. NHTSA's 1989 report concluded that Periodic Motor Vehicle Inspection (PMVI) programs reduce the number of poorly maintained vehicles on the highways, but that available data did not conclusively demonstrate that PMVI programs significantly reduced crash rates. However, the General Accounting Office (GAO) reviewed the NHTSA study and concluded in 1990 that "when all the studies and analyses are considered together, even taking into account their individual limitations, their relative consistency justifies a conclusion that periodic inspection programs reduce accident rates." Moreover, the inspection program produces vehicle defect data that allows an intuitive conclusion that the program makes a contribution toward improving highway safety.

Each year thousands of defects are identified and corrected via the PMVI program. The eight most common defects detected in Calendar Years 2014 and 2015 that would not have been corrected if we did not have the yearly inspection program are shown in the table on the next page.

Requiring motorists to submit to a motor vehicle inspection once every two years would allow those motorists, who do not take the maintenance of their vehicle seriously, to allow their vehicles to go unchecked for the entire two-year period in between the motor

vehicle inspections. These defects, if left unchecked for a two year period, could potentially place vehicles that are unsafe on our roads

Inspection Item - Defects	Calendar Year 2014	Calendar Year 2015	Total
Headlamps	3,715	3,235	6,950
Insurance	19,220	18,428	37,648
Registration	161,627	161,055	322,682
Stop Lamps	6,947	5,560	12,507
Tail Lamps	3,253	2,575	5,828
Tires	12,568	10,508	23,076
Window Tint	6,414	5,074	11,488
Windshield Wipers	5,812	4,701	10,513

In addition, the legislature mandated that motor vehicle registration and insurance be made a part of the inspection program. The objective of the mandates was to help enforce the registration and insurance laws. As shown in the table, these two items rank number 1 and number 2 of all defects. Changing the inspections to twice a year will certainly frustrate these objectives of the Legislature.

Hawaii nudges the owners to maintain the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards by making most of them a part of the motor vehicle inspection program. Since no one ever expects to be in a crash or their vehicle breaking down or stalling, motivating people to take preventive action is often difficult, especially when taking the action costs money.

Based on the defects identified and corrected, the annual PMVI program seems to be helping many people keep their vehicles in a reasonably safe condition.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

February 23, 2016

Alik's Automotive Repair and Service LLC
736 Lower Main Street
Wailuku HI 96793

Re: SB2715 to extend the safety inspection period from one year to two

Dear Honorable Chair, Vice Chair and members of the TRE/WAM Committees,

I, Alike Ballao the owner of Alik's Automotive Repair and Service LLC is OPPOSING this BILL SB2715. If this is going to go through, then you should make the state Change the VEHICLE REGISTRATION to 2 YEARS for the same price of 1 Year TAX ALSO. There's a reason why the vehicle safety checks are set at 1-year expiration, being an auto tech for the past 15 plus years, I've seen brake pads, tires, windshield wipers and other safety items go out within 1 year. I feel if you change the safety check expiration to 2 years, there is going to be a lot of unsafe vehicles on the roads of Hawaii. Please don't change the safety check to a 2-year expiration.

Thank you,

Alike Ballao
Owner Member

From: mpatao@aol.com
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Bill SB2715 to extend the safety inspection period from 1 year to 2
Date: Sunday, February 21, 2016 8:06:07 AM

Aloha to Honorable Chair, Vice Chair and members of the TRE/WAM

Our staff at Patao Gas & Go definitely oppose this bill.

We have been in business conducting safety inspections for over 30 years now. Safety inspections are the only services we offer. We currently have 6 licensed inspectors and have seen a large percentage of customers on Maui. We have been around even from the time when safety inspections were required every 6 months for vehicles that were 10 years and older!!

With thousands of vehicles on the road, why would one compromise your family's safety because a yearly inspection is "inconvenient". Convenience should not be an excuse to compromise safety. Every day, nearly 1/2 of the vehicles that we inspect have defects that the customer is unaware of. Examples of these would be no brake lights, cracked lenses, bald tires, missing lug nuts, cracked windshields, etc. and not to mention expired registrations and no insurance.

Without the safety inspections, all of these vehicles will be on the roads creating potential deadly accidents. Allowing these vehicles on the highways for 2 years because of hardships to obtain an appointment with a safety inspections station is not right.

A person makes regular appointments with his doctor for regular check ups and waits 2 to 3 hours for it. The same should apply to your vehicle which takes you to and from work every day and takes you to all your family activities. Let the safety inspectors check your car once a year to insure safety for all.

We humbly request that this bill be opposed.

Sincerely,
Marine Patao
co-owner Patao Gas & Go

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: kauaihale@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2715 on Feb 25, 2016 13:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 3:20:47 PM

SB2715

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for WAM on Feb 25, 2016 13:00PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Louisa Wooton	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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