



SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

March 3, 2015, 2:45 P.M., Room 229

(Testimony is 1 page long)



LATE TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 416

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Harimoto and members of the Transportation Committee:

Blue Planet Foundation **supports** SB 416, which creates a legal definition for cycle tracks and prohibits mopeds from riding in bike lanes, bike paths and cycle tracks.

Cycle tracks, which are also known as “protected bike lanes” are a type of bike infrastructure in which on-street bike lanes (either one or two-way) are separated from vehicular traffic by curbing, landscaping, bollards, parking or some other mechanism.

These types of facilities have become increasingly popular in cities around the US and world in recent years and both empirical and anecdotal evidence suggests that they generate higher bike ridership and better safety for cyclists and vehicles than traditional bike lanes.

Existing state law **REQUIRES** mopeds to ride in bike lanes on streets where bike lanes are provided. Mopeds typically weigh around 200 pounds and travel at speeds approaching 30 mph. Mopeds are much closer to motorcycles and scooters in weight and speed than they are to bicycles. We believe that their weight and speed pose a real safety hazard to cyclists.

We encourage the committee to adopt this measure to ensure the safety of Hawaii’s cyclists.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.