

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 3RD FLOOR
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
Phone: (808) 768-8305 • Fax: (808) 768-4730 • Internet: www.honolulu.gov

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



MARK K. KIKUCHI, P.E.
ACTING DIRECTOR

JON Y. NOUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 6, 2017

The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee
on Transportation and Energy
State Capitol, Room 225
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Inouye and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: Testimony on Senate Bill No. 974 Relating to Parking for Disabled Persons

The Department of Transportation Services supports the passage of Senate Bill No. 974 Relating to Parking for Disabled Persons.

The bill limits the exemption from payment of parking meter fees to vehicles that display a distinguishing parking permit or decal issued to an applicant who presents a certificate of disability or verifies that the applicant is licensed to drive a motor vehicle and cannot reach or operate a parking meter because of physical disability.

We feel that the bill will limit the exemption to licensed drivers that cannot reach or operate the parking meter because of a physical disability. Currently, there are many drivers with mobility impairments that qualify for the disability parking permit and are able to reach and operate a parking meter. By providing a new category of "distinguishing permit or decal" the permittees who are able to reach and operate parking meters or are transported in vehicles driven by another person because the driver is able to reach and operate a parking meter will no longer be able to park under this exemption.

I support that the subject bill be passed by this committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark K. Kikuchi".

Mark K. Kikuchi, P.E.
Acting Director

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February 6, 2017

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee
on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
State Capitol, Room 225
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Nishihara and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: Testimony on Senate Bill No. 974 Relating to Parking for Disabled Persons

The Department of Transportation Services supports the passage of Senate Bill No. 974 Relating to Parking for Disabled Persons.

The bill limits the exemption from payment of parking meter fees to vehicles that display a distinguishing parking permit or decal issued to an applicant who presents a certificate of disability or verifies that the applicant is licensed to drive a motor vehicle and cannot reach or operate a parking meter because of physical disability.

We feel that the bill will limit the exemption to licensed drivers that cannot reach or operate the parking meter because of a physical disability. Currently, there are many drivers with mobility impairments that qualify for the disability parking permit and are able to reach and operate a parking meter. By providing a new category of "distinguishing permit or decal" the permittees who are able to reach and operate parking meters or are transported in vehicles driven by another person because the driver is able to reach and operate a parking meter will no longer be able to park under this exemption.

I support that the subject bill be passed by this committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.

Very truly yours,

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Mark K. Kikuchi, P.E.
Acting Director



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 101 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V/TDD) • Fax (808) 586-8129

February 6, 2017

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY,
AND PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Senate Bill 974 – Relating to Parking for Disabled Persons

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) supports Senate Bill 974 – Relating to Parking for Disabled Persons. The purpose of this bill is to limit the exemption from payment of parking meter fees to only applicants who present a certificate of disability verifying that they (1) are licensed to drive a motor vehicle and (2) cannot reach or operate parking meters because of a physical disability.

Section 291-55, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), provides that any vehicle displaying a disability parking permit is exempted from payment of parking meter fees for two-and-a-half hours or the maximum time allowed by the meter, whichever is longer. The current exemption goes beyond the original intent of the law, which was to waive the fee for drivers who could not reach or operate parking meters because of a physical disability. The original purpose of the law was not to provide free parking for all disability parking permit holders. An unintended consequence of the current exemption was the creation of an incentive for persons other than the permit holders, such as family members and others, to illegally use the permit to avoid paying parking meter fees.

Therefore, this bill will (1) narrow the exemption from payment of parking meter fees to only licensed drivers who cannot reach or operate a parking meter because of their disability, (2) reduce the illegal use of disability parking permits by persons other than permit holders to avoid parking meter fees, and (3) increase revenue to the State. In addition, qualified applicants will be issued a distinguishing parking permit or decal for display in their vehicles while parked in metered parking spaces to signify their exemption from payment pursuant to section 291-55, HRS.

We request an additional amendment to Section 4 of the bill on page 4, line 12. Suggested language change would be to delete the words “a maximum of” and insert “the first” in front of two-and-a-half hours. This will specify that the meter fee exemption applies to the first two-and-a-half hours or the maximum time the meter allows, whichever is longer. Emphasis on the first two-and-a-half hours will require permit holders to move their vehicles after the allowed time expires.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

BARBARA FISCHLOWITZ-LEONG
Chairperson
Legislative Committee

FRANCINE WAI
Executive Director

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 3:23 AM
To: TRE Testimony
Cc: blawaiianlvr@icloud.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB974 on Feb 9, 2017 14:45PM

SB974

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for TRE/PSM on Feb 9, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Ho'omana Pono, LLC.	Oppose	Yes

Comments: We WHOLLY OPPOSE this bill! To continue this trend of attacking people with disabilities, especially by legislators who may not be deemed to be people with disabilities, is like the men in the United States Congress who want to regulate & control women & what they can or cannot do with their bodies! People with disabilities have a clear disadvantage over life functions as compared to people who have no disability. This bill seeks to add another onerous regulation upon people who have a disability, which could push people with disabilities to completely ignore these laws that specifically target people with disabilities! We believe that this bill may also run afoul of the Americans with Disabilities Act's prohibition against discrimination of people with disabilities. We ask that you kill this bill.

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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DOWNTOWN-CHINATOWN NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 13

NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 925 DILLINGHAM BOULEVARD, SUITE 160 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96817
PHONE (808) 768-3710 • FAX (808) 768-3711 • INTERNET <http://www.honolulu.gov/ncq>

State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear State Senate,

At the meeting of Thursday, February 2, 2017, the No. 13 Downtown-Chinatown Neighborhood Board voted, 7-0-0 in support of Senate Bill (SB) 974.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alvin Au", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Alvin Au, Chair
Downtown Neighborhood Board No. 13

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 1:42 PM
To: TRE Testimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB974 on Feb 7, 2017 13:30PM*

SB974

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for TRE/PSM on Feb 7, 2017 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	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 8, 2017 10:31 PM
To: TRE Testimony
Cc: djf991960@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB974 on Feb 8, 2017 13:40PM

SB974

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for TRE/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:40PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Fukuzawa	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill as it appears discriminatory in nature. Being that as a disabled person who has gone through the necessary requirement to obtain this permit, that should be enough. A doctor has certified the disability and as such, one disability should not be viewed as more significant than another one.

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