

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 9:04:35 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Victor K. Ramos	Maui Police Department	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 9:22:45 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stephen Orikasa	Maui Police Department	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 3:29:29 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tommy Noyes	Kauai Path, Inc.	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Please pass this bill for the safety of the people on our streets and roads who ride bicycles.

Also, motorists who abide by the law and avoid crashing into bicyclists will never have to live with the terrible guilt caused by harming or killing someone because they drove too close to the other road user.

Mahalo,

Tommy Noyes



## Peoples Advocacy For Trails Hawai'i

PO Box 62, Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96745  
808 -326-7284 [www.pathhawaii.org](http://www.pathhawaii.org)

### Board of Directors

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Janet Higa Miller  
Jane Bockus  
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Franz Weber

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### Mission

To safely connect  
the people and  
places on Hawaii  
Island with pathways  
and bikeways.

*Serving*  
the Island of Hawai'i  
since 1986

February 4, 2018

### TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB2215, RELATING TO BICYCLES

Aloha Transportation Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Quinlan, and esteemed members of the Committee on Transportation:

The Board and the members of Peoples Advocacy for Trails Hawaii (PATH) strongly support HB2215. This bill will clarify in the existing Safe Passing law, Hawaii Revised Statutes 291C-43, that 3 feet is the minimum safe distance that a motorist should provide when overtaking a bicyclist.

The passage of HB2215 will make our roads safer for cycling and for all road users by codifying a clear minimum safe passing distance, consistent with national standards and the Hawaii Driver's Manual.

This codification of the recognized minimum safe passing distance will increase driver awareness of safe passing and result in safer passing practices. This is crucial to help prevent further injuries and deaths on our roads.

In order to share our roads safely, all users must adhere to clear and agreed upon rules of the road. This bill will go far in clarifying one of those rules by establishing a minimum safe passing distance.

Sadly, 30 cyclists have been killed on Hawaii's roads in 10 years (2005-2014). Let's work together to bring this number down to zero.

Twenty-six states and Washington DC have amended their Safe Passing laws to include 3 feet as the minimum distance when overtaking a bicyclist. Police, cities, states, and nonprofits in these states are using signage, enforcement, and awareness campaigns to make sure their Safe Passing laws make their streets safer. Let's bring this accepted "best practice" into law and make our roads safer.

Thank you very much for considering this testimony from PATH . If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please contact me at 808-561-9212, or [tinaclothier@pathhawaii.org](mailto:tinaclothier@pathhawaii.org).

Tina Clothier  
Executive Director

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 6:59:54 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donald Child	Hawaii Bicycling League	Support	No

## Comments:

A three foot passing zone for cars and trucks overtaking bicyclists is quickly becoming a national standard. I am an avid bicyclist, and have at times been nearly sideswiped by vehicles, both in Hawaii and during a coast-to-coast ride across America. It is not only the vehicles, but the attached rear-view mirrors that sometimes jut out 1-2 feet. If, as a bicyclist, I encounter a road hazard that may be invisible to vehicular traffic, I may have to swerve suddenly. Without the three-foot safety zone, I have no way to avoid hazards, and no way to avoid mirrors extending from the sides of vehicles. Please pass this legislation, and do everything in your power as legislators, to help make the roads safer for bicyclists.

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 8:06:45 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Don Wright	American Red Cross SAF Center	Support	No

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

3' mandatory safe passing distance makes sense for both cyclists and drivers. Please support this measure designed to make transit on our roads safer for all.

Sincerely, Don Wright

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 9:47:57 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mark Olson	Pacific Center for Awareness and Bodywork	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 6:41:36 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Toni Romp-Friesen	P.A.T.H.	Support	No

## Comments:

I strongly support HB 2215, to mandate that motorists must give a minimum of 3 feet when passing a cyclist, as I have been passed by large trucks and tour busses with only inches between us, and it is terrifying. NO ONE wants to see another cyclist hurt or killed, and it would be wonderful to have this law enacted, as it is in many other states. Thank you for listening!



Clemson Lam  
P.O. Box 1893  
Kamuela, HI 96743

re: HB 2215

To Whom It May Concern,

I am in support of HB 2215 requiring a driver of a vehicle passing or overtaking a bicycle to allow a minimum of 3 feet separation.

I am a bicycle commuter and ride the Kawaiiahe Road daily during rush hour traffic and have had some very close calls. I like to ride my bike because it takes one more car off the road and I get my daily exercise built into my lifestyle. Please try it!

Sincerely,

Clemson Lam

Chariman Waimea Trails and Greenways

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 8:43:31 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Malia	Hawaii Bicycling League	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha. Please help save lives and pass this bill. People who choose to commute or exercise by bicycle should not have to wonder if that next close call with a motor vehicle will be their last. I am writing in strong support for this crucial and life-saving bill.

Mahalo from the bottom of my heart,

- Malia k Harunaga

February 6, 2018

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB2215, RELATING TO BICYCLES

Aloha, Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Quinlan and members of the House Committee on Transportation:

The Board of Directors and the members of the Hawai'i Cycling Club strongly support the passage of HB2215. This bill would clarify in the existing Safe Passing law, HRS 291C-43, that 3 feet is the minimum safe distance that a motorist should provide when overtaking a bicyclist.

The codification of a clear minimum safe passing distance, consistent with national standards and the Hawai'i Driver's Manual, will make our roads safer for cyclists and all road users.

Let's join the twenty-six states and Washington, D.C., that have already amended their Safe Passing laws to include 3 feet as the minimum required distance when overtaking a bicyclist. By making this "best practice" the law, we will make our roads safer for everyone and help prevent cyclist fatalities.

Thank you very much for considering this testimony from the Hawai'i Cycling Club. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (808) 937-7380 or [hawaiicyclingclub@gmail.com](mailto:hawaiicyclingclub@gmail.com).

Sincerely,  
Pamela L. Harlow  
President, Hawai'i Cycling Club

ADDRESS

3442 Waialae Ave., Suite 1  
Honolulu, HI 96816

PHONE

808-735-5756



FAX

808-735-7989

EMAIL

bicycle@hbl.org

### Testimony Strongly Supporting HB2215

Aloha Transportation Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Quinlan, and esteemed members of the Committee on Transportation:

Hawaii Bicycling League **strongly supports HB2215**, which would clarify in the existing Safe Passing law, Hawaii Revised Statutes 291C-43, that 3 feet is the minimum safe distance that a motorist should provide when overtaking a bicyclist.

HB2215 will make our roads safer for cycling and for all road users by codifying a clear minimum safe passing distance, consistent with national standards and the Hawaii Driver's Manual. This codification of the recognized minimum safe passing distance will increase driver awareness of safe passing and result in safer passing practices. This is crucial to help prevent more injuries and deaths on our roads.

- 30 cyclists have been killed on Hawaii's roads in 10 years (2005-2014)
- 44% of all cyclist fatalities result from being struck from behind or sideswiped (national data)
- 12% of cyclists "felt threatened for personal safety" the last time they rode and "someone drove too close to me" was the primary reason (national data)

Safely sharing our roads requires clear and agreed upon ground rules. No driver wants to hit a cyclist, and some just don't understand what a safe passing distance is. The Safe Passing 3 Foot bill will make it clear to all drivers that 3 feet is the minimum safe passing distance.

Twenty-six states and Washington DC have amended their Safe Passing laws to include 3 feet as the minimum distance when overtaking a bicyclist. Police, cities, states, and nonprofits in these states are using signage, enforcement, and awareness campaigns to make sure their Safe Passing laws make their streets safer.

Thank you very much for considering the comments of Hawaii Bicycling League. If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please contact Chad Taniguchi (808-735-5756, [chad@hbl.org](mailto:chad@hbl.org)) or Daniel Alexander (808-275-6717, [Daniel@hbl.org](mailto:Daniel@hbl.org)).

Ride and Drive Aloha,

Chad Taniguchi  
Executive Director  
Hawaii Bicycling League

Daniel Alexander  
Advocacy & Planning Director  
Hawaii Bicycling League

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 9:07:28 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dale		Oppose	No

Comments:

This bill lacks equality in the structure of the bill. If the thought is to create a 3 foot safety zone around the bicyclist then the bill should also include the bicycle operator. The bicyclist should also be required to maintain a 3 foot safety zone when passing and approaching motorized vehicles. If safety is the issue then the bicyclist should be required to maintain a safe distance also as cars and trucks have a hard time seeing bicyclist weaving in and out of traffic and speeding down hills and greater than the posted speeds.

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 10:52:43 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Franz Weber		Support	No

Comments:

The bill will clarify, what a safe distance is for a motorist to pass a cyclist. It also provides opportunity to educate motorists and cyclists about safe passing and safe riding. Enforcement is possible, as studies on the mainland have shown.

Committee on Transportation  
Representative Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair  
Representative Sean Quinlan, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 10:00 am

Measure: **HB 2215**

Dear Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Quinlan, and members of the House Committee on Transportation,

My name is Kari Benes and I am the current chair of the Hawaii Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) asking for your **support of HB 2215**. *A safe passing law for bicyclists* is one of the life saving priorities outlined by the Hawaii SHSP Core Committee.

According to Hawaii Department of Transportation there were a total of 12 bicycle related fatalities from 2014 to 2017. 5 out of the 12 fatalities involved a motorist overtaking a bicyclist.

Hawaii is among 9 other states that do not have a safe passing law to protect bicycle riders. Most states (28) have a 3-foot passing law for bicyclists, similar to what is proposed in HB 2215.<sup>1</sup>

Supporting HB 2215, you can help encourage drivers to provide a safe distance between their vehicle and a bicycle rider along with helping us achieve SHSP's vision that all of Hawaii's road users arrive safely at their destinations.

To view the Hawaii Strategic Highway Safety Plan go to [www.hawaiiishsp.com](http://www.hawaiiishsp.com)

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Kari Benes -Chair

Hawaii Strategic Highway Safety Plan

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ncsl.org/research/transportation/safely-passing-bicyclists.aspx>

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 1:30:21 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Anson Okimoto		Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Quinlan, and members of the Committee on Transportation:

I strongly support HB2215 that requires a three foot separation between a passing vehicle and a bicyclist as it will help avoid accidents on our busy streets.

As a bicycle commuter and father of two cyclists, I urge you to help make our streets safer and encourage a healthy lifestyle.

Respectfully yours,

Anson Okimoto



**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 5:14:15 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nima Daivari		Support	No

Comments:

Please enact this law. It protects both cyclists and motorists.

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 5:23:46 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dennis Lynch		Support	Yes

## Comments:

I commute to work four miles each day 5 days a week. I wear a helmet, reflector vest & have flashing red light in back and white flashing light in front. I also have a side mirror. I try to follow all bike safety rules. I have been biking to and from work for over 8 years. There have been near hits/misses & close calls on many occasions. I'm doing my best to be safe and respect those in their vehicles. Please pass this bill so I can remain safe and have less stress during my commute.

Mahalo,

Dennis Lynch

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 5:36:28 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Andrew Grandinetti		Support	No

Comments:

HB2215 will make our roads safer for cycling and for all road users by codifying a clear minimum safe passing distance, consistent with national standards and the Hawaii Driver's Manual. This codification of the recognized minimum safe passing distance will increase driver awareness of safe passing and result in safer passing practices. Many drivers are unaware of what these national and local standards are, and this legislation will make it clearer to all drivers and the police officers who are tasked with protecting us on our roads

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 5:54:43 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
heidi better		Support	No

Comments:

Safely sharing our roads requires clear and agreed upon ground rules. No driver wants to hit a cyclist, and some just don't understand what a safe passing distance is. The Safe Passing 3 Foot bill will make it clear to all drivers that 3 feet is the minimum safe passing distance. 26 states have already passed similar laws. We need this to

pass to help increase safety for all on our roads

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 5:55:22 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Maureen Garry		Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Cycling is one of the best ways to enjoy Hawaii's natural beauty while lessening traffic, getting great exercise and socializing with friends. I used to cycle a lot on the mainland, even commuting short distances when I could.

Since moving to Hawaii island I won't ride anywhere other than around my neighborhood, and certainly would never commute, because the roads are too unsafe. Many drivers don't understand what it's like to ride on a narrow shoulder perched on two wheels, and pass dangerously close to cyclists. We already know many riders have lost their lives in careless accidents.

I strongly encourage you to pass HB2215 so we can move Hawaii toward being a safer environment for cyclists.

Mahalo,

Maureen Garry

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 6:02:52 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Julie Gilliland		Support	No

Comments:

Please pass this bill that will provide legislation to make Hawaii's roads safer for both cyclists and motor vehicles. Currently, cars pass me within 1 foot of space, often at high speeds, without any regard for my safety or the fact they could cause an accident. Cars also routinely pass me nearly "brushing" me. This is dangerous.

A cyclist often has to make quick adjustments due to road conditions such as glass or debris or poor road conditions that could cause the cyclist to move over. Without a 3 foot law, a car could easily hit a cyclist with so little room when passing.

Please make our roads safer for both cyclists and cars by passing this bill. Hawaii needs this legislation.

Julie Houck Gilliland

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 6:07:38 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Anthony Chang		Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha Transportation Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Quinlan, and esteemed members of the Committee on Transportation.

As a lifelong resident of Hawaii, I feel better infrastructure and laws for bicycling, besides making bicyclists safer, would encourage more people to bicycle, helping reduce traffic by having fewer cars on the road, reducing traffic, carbon emissions, and promoting a healthier lifestyle in Hawaii.

In addition to my own testimony, I wish to include Hawaii Bicycling League's testimony, all of which I agree with. From Hawaii Bicycling League:

"[I] strongly supports SB2529, which would clarify in the existing Safe Passing law, Hawaii Revised Statutes 291C-43, that 3 feet is the minimum safe distance that a motorist should provide when overtaking a bicyclist.

SB2529 will make our roads safer for cycling and for all road users by codifying a clear minimum safe passing distance, consistent with national standards and the Hawaii Driver's Manual. This codification of the recognized minimum safe passing distance will increase driver awareness of safe passing and result in safer passing practices.

This is crucial to help prevent more injuries and deaths on our roads.

- 30 cyclists have been killed on Hawaii's roads in 10 years (2005-2014)
- 44% of all cyclist fatalities result from being struck from behind or sideswiped (national data)
- 12% of cyclists "felt threatened for personal safety" the last time they rode and "someone drove too close to me" was the primary reason (national data)

Safely sharing our roads requires clear and agreed upon ground rules. No driver wants to hit a cyclist, and some just don't understand what a safe passing distance is. The Safe Passing 3 Foot bill will make it clear to all drivers that 3 feet is the minimum safe passing distance.

Twenty-six states and Washington DC have amended their Safe Passing laws to include 3 feet as the minimum distance when overtaking a bicyclist. Police, cities, states, and nonprofits in these states are using signage, enforcement, and awareness campaigns to make sure their Safe Passing laws make their streets safer."

Mahalo nui loa for your time. Let me know if you have any questions.

Anthony Chang  
1245 Maunakea St. #2310  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
(808) 536-0783



**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 6:25:48 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shirley Prat		Support	No

Comments:

My husband and I are avid bicyclists who feel a 3 Foot Safe Passing Law is long overdue for Hawaii. We moved to the Big Island 8 years ago because there is a sizeable community of bicyclists riding nearly every day (not just around Ironman in October) for the purposes of commuting, exercise and recreation thanks to the great year-around weather we have here. There are also local and visiting cyclists circumnavigating our island along the Belt road because, hands down, it's the best way to see the Big Island. Namely, you see, feel and smell so much more than you would sitting in a car. Several good friends of ours rode around the island just a couple weekends ago and several times a year there are various bike tour groups also riding around the island.

But if bicycling is so great and it makes so much sense health-wise, environmentally and from a tourism point of view, why aren't more people doing it? Ask yourself: **Why aren't YOU riding a bicycle on our beautiful island?**

There are a multitude of reasons non-riders will give but the Number One reason we hear is because they feel it is UNSAFE. But the truth is, bicycling as an activity itself is not what's unsafe, it's the environment that's unsafe for cyclists.

With the current, very limited bicycling infrastructure we have and a limited budget for creating new roads with safer pathways for multi-modal transportation, we believe the best way to start making the environment safer for bicyclists is to enact a 3 Foot (minimum) Safe Passing Law followed by a strong safety education campaign for ALL road users. We know enforcement will be difficult but many of us grew up with no law requiring seat belts to be worn and have seen how a change to the laws requiring wearing of one's seat belt has become second nature when driving a car and saved lives in the end. Similarly, we believe a 3 Foot Safe Passing law could save lives by: (1) making motorists keenly aware of bicyclists' right to use the road, which many are unaware of, and then (2) requiring them to pass them in a much safer manner than currently done with existing laws, which are vague and assume motorists know what it's like to be passed by a car while riding a bike and hence what is a safe passing distance.

Additional verbiage in the law to allow motorists to cross over double yellow lines when safe to do so would also be a big help so motorists can pass cyclists with the minimum

safe distance and yet not be forced to break a traffic law in doing so. Eight states (CO, ME, MI, MT, OH, PA, UT, WI) already have such additional verbiage in their laws.

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 6:33:00 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dorothy M Sunio		Support	No

Comments:

Please support this bill and help to make our streets safer for bicyclists as well as drivers. This law will make drivers more aware of bicyclists and will help to prevent accidents and deaths. I know that everyone was is interested in safety. Please give your support to this bill

Sincerely

Dorothy Sunio

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 6:56:32 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melanie Killam		Support	No

## Comments:

I am a bicyclist and ride on the streets of O'ahu. I have been passed very closely by speeding cars. It is very scary because I can't see what is coming behind me and usually have nowhere on the road to move further to the right. I strongly support the 3 foot rule. Having that rule will make the roads safer for all. Thanks, Melanie Killam

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 7:29:24 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael Weber		Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am a 61 year-old cyclist living in Laie. I ride approx. 6500 miles per year, mostly along Kam. Hwy. between Kaneohe and Haleiwa. I strongly support the 3 foot rule, because I am hoping that it will raise awareness for cyclists and therefore will make cycling safer for me and all cyclists in Hawaii.

I have had many bad experiences with vehicles while cycling that would have been prevented if the drivers were following the 3 foot rule. On April 25, 2015 I was sideswiped by a car in Sunset Beach. I was knocked unconscious, had a broken rib, and was bruised and scratched up very badly. I have also had many - too many - close calls where drivers simply were not paying attention and pulled out in front of me, turned in front of me, nearly sideswiped me, etc. Please understand that I ride with lights on, even during the day, and I wear very bright colored clothing, in order to be seen.

I realize that passing this law will not guarantee my safety and that of my fellow cyclists, but it will surely help, and that means a lot to me. Hawaii is a wonderful place to cycle. and the 3 foot rule will only make it better. Please vote for this rule.

Michael Weber

Laie, Hi

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 8:03:21 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Peter Wizinowich		Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for proposing and supporting this bill. I and many of my friends are cyclists. It is a way to enjoy our beautiful island while getting exercise. I have also been a regular bike commuter in the past and would like to return to this routine for environmental reasons, especially if the commute could be made a little safer. Finding ways to make cycling safer in Hawaii is important for the safety of our children, fellow Hawaii citizens, visitors to our Islands, and the environment.

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 8:07:29 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tyler Johnston		Support	No

Comments:

I am a commutertowork and need roads without bike lanes so i appreciate safe and legal space.

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 8:12:48 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Andrew Dunne		Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Transportation Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Quinlan, and esteemed members of the Committee on Transportation.

I would like to testify in favor of HB2215, and let it be known that I strongly support the bill and its enforcement by the police and courts. I have been cycling in Hawaii since 1990, on Maui, Oahu, the Big Island and Lanai, and have had more incidents than I can recall with motorists passing too closely. I know many people who have given up riding on Hawaii's roads because they feel that not only is it too dangerous, but that there is no legal recourse if they are struck.

I have also ridden extensively in states and countries (Maine, France and Italy) that have similar laws that are enforced, and the drivers are much more careful around cyclists and there are far fewer incidents and accidents involving cyclists.

In addition to passing the bill, it is critical that the police, the counties of Hawaii, the state, and nonprofits use signage, enforcement, and awareness campaigns to make sure the Safe Passing law(s) actually make the streets safer.

Thank you for considering my testimony, and let's all work to make Hawaii's roads safer and more accessible for everyone.

Aloha,  
Andrew Dunne

23 Akea Place, Maui, HI, 96790



**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 8:14:29 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bob Smith		Support	No

## Comments:

Please pass HB 2215. It will save bicyclists' lives and help motorists avoid accidents. It will help prevent the harrassment of bicyclists. A 3 foot law already applies to passing other vehicles so why shouldn't it apply to bikes too.. Many other states already have enacted this safety measure.

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 8:23:13 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
simon radford		Support	No

Comments:

As a frequent bicycle rider, for both daily transport (commuting) and for recreation, I strongly support HB2215.

Hawaii is blessed with a pleasant climate conducive to year round bicycle riding. But the cavalier attitude of many automobile drivers to vulnerable road users is frightening. Many times, drivers have passed me at high speed with far too little clearance, seemingly oblivious to the catastrophic consequences of an error. Some years ago, a good friend was struck while riding his bicycle by a hurried driver who failed to leave adequate space. My friend only(!) broke his hip and had to endure prolonged and continuing treatment and rehabilitation. Others are not so lucky. Far too often, the news reports bicycle riders killed or injured by drivers.

By mandating a minimum passing clearance, HB2215 affirms the driver's responsibility to avoid endangering vulnerable road users. This is an important step to making Hawaii's roads safer for all users, automobile drivers, bicycle riders, and pedestrians alike.

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 8:41:01 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
ME Smith		Support	No

Comments:

This bill is needed to provide much needed safety to bicyclists who are now at the mercy of drivers of cars and trucks who harrass and try to run them off the road.

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 9:26:25 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Erik Molina		Support	No

Comments:

Aloha State Senate,

I have been a resident of Honolulu since January 2010, have over 20,000 miles by bike on roads all over Oahu, and commute from my residence in Waikiki to Pearl Harbor multiple times per week. I strongly support SB2529 because it will make cycling safer and is the national standard. I routinely get 'buzzed' (passed extremely close and fast by automotive vehicles) on my commute to work along Nimitz Highway. I have been in situations on Nimitz Highway where I could literally reach out and touch a passing semi truck. I have been the victim of numerous road rage incidents against cyclist and just as concerning, of dangerously unaware drivers. This measure will go a long way in making the roads a safer place for cyclist by giving law enforcement a mechanism to hold aggressive or dangerously unaware drivers accountable for their actions, in turn making the roads a safe place. Moreover, it will bring Honolulu in line with policies that make sense that are already implemented in other cities similar in population and density throughout the country, and has the potential to influence the community to ride a bike in lieu of driving a car which has nothing but positive consequences starting at the individual level all the way through the community level. SB2529 has my strongest possible supporting position.

-Erik Molina

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 6:45:09 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Richard Wang		Support	No

Comments:

Hi, I support this bill to define 3 feet as the minimum safe passing distance of a cyclist by a car. I ride to and from work every day on my bike. When I travel from UH toward downtown, I ride over the McCully bridge and turn down Young St. The reason I take Young is because on King St., on all the many driveways feeding it, drivers are more accustomed to looking right for auto traffic, or both ways at the sidewalk for pedestrian traffic. They are not used to looking IN the road, to the left, for bicycle traffic. As for Beretania, that street is used by easily fifty times more cars than Young St., all of them passing me on the left, and I have to exit turning left, so that is not fun. Young St. allows me to ride along the sharrows, fully in the lane, where few cars travel, but in a place where most other drivers are checking for traffic. But I usually get at least one car that passes me every morning, and sooner or later a driver will pass me with less than 3 feet, and it does concern me when this happens, for my safety.

I recently did 2 rides where a 3' clearance would have really helped. I rode up the Pali to the lookout, and there are substantial sections of that road where you cannot ride off into the housing developments on the right and parallel the Pali, and yet there is not a wide right shoulder on the Pali. We deliberately went early Saturday, so there wasn't alot of traffic, but I was very nervous every time a car passed us. I never see other cyclists do this ride, probably for safety reasons. The other ride I did was up Tantalus, where I'm sure you are aware a cyclist recently got hit (head on) by a driver that was drifting. We got passed a few times, by reasonable drivers that let us move to the shoulder before passing us with good clearance. By driver education I mean that I don't think many drivers understand that the sharrows indicates WHERE in the lane the cyclist should be. They think it only indicates that cyclists use the road as a preferred route, but that they should be as close to the right side as possible. So driver education can be improved there. I believe a clear, unambiguous clearance requirement, PLUS DRIVER EDUCATION, will help improve safety and reduce injury and death. I consider myself lucky that I have ridden to work for 2 years without an accident, and I would like to keep it that way. Thank you.

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 6:51:10 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Wil Friesen	coffee farmer	Support	No

## Comments:

I strongly support passage of HB2215, the legislation requiring a minimum of 3 feet in passing a cyclist, as I would like motorists to understand that passing a bicyclist with only inches to spare is not only very dangerous, but it is against the law. If we want to encourage a healthier lifestyle by cycling, it must be a safer activity. Thank you so much.

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 6:58:40 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachael S	Self	Support	No

## Comments:

I strongly support HB2215 to clarify that 3 feet is the minimum safe distance that a motorist should provide when overtaking a bicyclist. As an avid cyclist respectful of all road users and uses, I do not wish to impede a driver's road usage. But nor do I wish to be caught between a car passing too close on the left and a parked car on the right. Too many cyclists have lost their lives when those parked cars on the right open their doors and push them off of their bike and under the wheels of the cars behind them. Let's make sure no more such deaths occur in Hawaii.

Please pass this to make Hawaii a better place to ride a bike and be safe! Mahalo



**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 8:39:51 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Doug Fitch Schwartzsmith	Schwartzsmith	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass this. Safety of all road users is critical. OUR roads in HI are horrible for cyclists (potholes, non-existent shoulders, debris) and this bill will help add a margin of safety.

Testimony for HB 2215

February 7, 2018

I've read somewhere that the greatest protectors from any danger are time and space. When motorists and bicyclists begin to occupy the same space on the road at the same time, bicyclists face the greater danger. I've never heard of any collision between a motorist and bicycle where the motorist suffered the greater injury.

Please pass HB2215 to give bicyclists their essential protection while sharing the road with motorists, and to educate motorists on their need to give bicyclists more space while sharing the road with them.

Aloha,

Bruce Koike

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 9:02:33 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brian Huffman		Support	No

Comments:

Hello, Representatives:

I am pleased to offer my **SUPPORT** for **HB2215**. This bill would afford safety to the many bicyclists traversing our streets. I am an avid cyclist and would feel safer knowing this law existed. Our roads are narrow and somewhat treacherous for cyclists and this bill would help aid them. This basic safety law, which already exists in the majority of states, is a simple way to help ensure that we can all share our roads safely.

Let's be clear though, the law alone cannot solve this problem. Drivers need to be educated and the police would need to enforce this law to make it effective. If this law is passed we may need to revise laws about crossing a "no passing" zone to afford 3-foot clearance. The League of American Bicyclists considers it best practice for the 3-foot Safe Passing law to allow motorists to cross the centerline to pass only if they can safely do so without obstructing oncoming traffic. Eight states (CO, ME, MI, MT, OH, PA, UT, WI) have such laws.

Respectfully,  
Brian Huffman  
Honolulu, HI 96822

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 9:20:51 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
june chee		Support	No

Comments:

Aloha - My name is June and I am a resident of Honolulu (1888 Kalakaua Ave, 96815). I submit testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of this bill to keep our roads safer for both drivers and cyclists. As bicycling is my main mode of transportation to get to and from work and daily activities, I experience first hand the safety issues that we have in our streets. In November my sister was hit by a taxi driver on her left hand side as the taxi overtook her in a merge lane and hit her with the right side of his vehicle. My sister was bruised, scraped, and terrified to get back on her bike for weeks after.

We are making great progress to become a bike friendly city but enforcing simple measures like the one proposed in this bill will make huge strides in keeping all residents of Honolulu (bikers, drivers, and peds) safe.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

June C Chee

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 9:38:42 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sery Berhanu		Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Transportation Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Quinlan, and esteemed members of the Committee on Transportation.

I, Sery Berhanu, strongly support HB2215, which would clarify the existing Safe Passing law, Hawaii Revised Statutes 291C-43, that 3 feet is the minimum safe distance that a motorist should provide when overtaking a bicyclist. HB2215 will make our roads safer for cycling and for all road users by codifying a clear minimum safe passing distance, consistent with the national standards and the Hawaii Driver's Manual. This codification of the recognized minimum safe passing distance will increase driver awareness of safe passing and result in safer passing practices. This is crucial to help prevent more injuries and deaths on our roads.

Thank you,

Sery Berhanu

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 10:25:40 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Richard Merschdorf		Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 10:29:29 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Anthony P Sedillo		Support	No

Comments:

Aloha -

I have been riding bicycles for over 40 years on the mainland and here in Hawaii. Every time I am riding on a street where vehicle traffic is traveling faster than 25 mph it can be dangerous when vehicles whiz by me without regard for my safety.

Variables that make a vehicle passing a bicyclist dangerous include: Contact- from passing too close. Bicycle tire blowout- causing bike to swerve into path of vehicle passing too close. Wind- pushing bicyclists into a parked vehicle, railing, wall, etc;. or pulling a bicyclist into a moving vehicle.

Please pass HB2215 to give awareness to vulnerable bicyclists, and a means to punish unsafe, aggressive motorist displaying blatant disregard to bicyclists safety.

Mucho Mahalo,

- Anthony Sedillo

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 11:55:47 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Daphne Manago		Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Transportation Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Quinlan, and Members of the Committee on Transportation:

â€œ We are writing to express our strong support for the Safe Passing 3 Foot HB2215. We feel it's very important for motorists â€œto be more aware of cyclists on the roads and provide cyclists with a safe distance of separation.

â€œOn the evening of December 17, 2010, our son, Zach, went on a ride around the island with 30 of his friends. Later in the evening, we received a phone call from my son's friend and the only words I remember were "Zach was clipped". Although Zach was wearing his helmet and had the proper lighting, he was hit from behind and did not survive the crash.

Zach was always afraid of being hit or side-wiped. As parents, it is our hope is that no one else will lose their life prematurely or tragically. We often wonder if it would have made a difference if we had a law in place.

We sincerely request your consideration and strongly believe that the Safe Passing 3 Foot bill will reduce careless and reckless driving behaviors and serve as a reminder that the roads must be shared. Thank you for your consideration.

Dennis and Daphne Manago



**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 12:19:40 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Scott Snider		Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2215 and encourage all lawmakers to pass this bill. As a regular bicycle commuter I rely on sharing our roadways for my bicycle commute from Mililani to Red Hill. MY LIFE IS AT STAKE WHEN CARS PASS TOO CLOSE!. I encourage the senate to think of "the little guy" and consider the "minority" which is, in essence, the cyclist. We have a right to choose cycling as a means of transporation which should include safe passage.

I am an active member of the Hawaii Bicyling League and encourage any lawmaker to give me a ring to chat about this subject. While I cant make the hearing due to work committments, I would like my voice to be heard.

Aloha, Scott Snider 808-220-5395

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 1:52:28 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robyn Hafner		Support	No

Comments:

As both a cyclist and a motorist, I strongly support SB2529. In adopting the "Safe Passing - 3 foot" measure, Hawaii will join most other states in creating safer roadways for us all.

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 2:22:30 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
JONATHAN LOTT		Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha Chair Aquino and members of the committee,

My name is Jonathan Lott and I live a "carless" existence from my home adjacent to Ala Wai Blvd. in the center of Waikiki. I have been using my bike as my primary transportation for over 13 years (when I sold my car). In my experience (I am also a Commercial-License Motorcoach Operator) there is insufficient appreciation on the part of most motor vehicle operators of how scary (and dangerous) it is to overtake a cyclist at close range, especially when there is a large speed differential or when the cyclist is inexperienced and not used to the potential hazards, such as many of our Bike Share users and college students living and/or working in Waikiki. I use my smartphone in continuous video recording mode, mounted on my helmet, as a sort of "dash cam" for the same reasons the police use video cams. Usually the camera calms drivers in "road rage" mode and acts as a deterrent to violence as well. I also eliminate the most common defense lawyers can use to get a driver off when they strike a cyclist, "I never saw him/her" by having many types of lights and reflectors including daytime bright blinking white lights that catch attention in mirrors as I use the often too-narrow bike lanes (such as along the Ala Wai canal) and streets marked with Sharrows, the meaning of which has not been adequately taught to the public, including cyclists. Nevertheless hostility/frustration is sometimes manifested by drivers intentionally "buzzing" me as they pass too close or when they shouldn't even try, when I am avoiding potholes, debris, and cracks and other street features more prevalent at the right side of streets and in the bike lanes. Since I commute alone by bike to Kalihi for work and everywhere else I need to go, I have a lot of stories to tell and nearly every day I could save video evidence that would scare you. I encourage all riders be nice, know and follow the law, and to wear cameras or use their phones like I do, and I particularly support this bill. Fear of being hit is the main reason more people don't ride a bike. Would you rather I was sitting in the gridlock with you, spewing exhaust, in my car or SUV? Consider the positive economic impact if Waikiki and Honolulu in general were known as pedestrian/bike-friendly destinations, not to mention the lessening of noise and exhaust.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 2:56:32 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonathan Hayes	n/a	Support	No

Comments:

This bill comes at a particularly apt time. This past weekend (2/3/2018) I was riding my bicycle on Alii Drive in Kailua Kona, I was ***IN THE SHOULDER***. A driver wasn't paying attention, instead of looking for all road users the driver pulled off the road into the shoulder and "cut me off", I went over my handle bars, crashed and landed ***ON MY HEAD***. I ended up in ER, thankfully I was wearing a helmet, and I survived. Please enact this law to make it safer for cyclists and to make drivers more aware. According to the officer if there was no damage sustained to the car, then it is not considered a traffic incident in Hawaii, as I understand it, that means there is ***no legal consequences*** for the driver, ***even though he nearly killed me***.

On another occasion I had a driver threaten to kill me because I was riding in the road, at the posted speed limit (residential street 25 mph going downhill) , keeping with the flow (e.g. not impeding traffic), keeping at a safe distance from the next vehicle, only to be unsafely passed, to then arrive at a traffic light and be verbally threatened with my life.

I have reported both of these events to the Hawaii County police in the last 12 months.

Additionally, when I ride, I ride with aloha, I share the road, I pull over to let traffic pass, yet I still have had drivers intentionally, drive close to "buzz" me, I have had drivers drive in the rumble strips on the sides of Queen Ka'ahumanu Hwy to intimidate me.

Too often when I am riding at the posted speed limit, with the flow of traffic, (e.g. keeping up with cars, not hindering flow), and there are no shoulders or bike lanes, I have had people pass me dangerously, just to prove a point, or because they are too impatient.

With the population growth in Hawaii, especially in Kailua Kona, we desperately need safer roads, ***we need this law***.

February 5, 2017

Aloha Representatives

Re: HB 2215 – allowing 3 Feet for Safer Streets  
Room 423  
February 7, 2018  
10:00 am

I am encouraging your support for HB2215 to allow a 3-foot buffer between motor vehicles and bicyclists.

As a lifelong bicyclist, and after being sent to the hospital twice by motorists who hit me from behind, I can testify to the safety need for this bill. I'll spare you the scary details and stories about weeks in the hospital and the months of amnesia, but I am lucky to be alive and other pedestrians have lost their lives on the roadways.

I hope that you share a vision of a bicycle friendly Hawai'i. Creating a safe environment for bicyclists helps create a healthier population, a human-friendly environment (rather than car-oriented), and allows a more socio-economic form of transportation to thrive.

Please vote AYE on HB2215!

Ann C. Peterson



205 Vineyard Street, APT 201  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813  
808-987-0185

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 4:42:51 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John Rogers		Support	No

Comments:

I support HB2215! This is a common-sense measure that will make Hawaii's roads safer for everyone. Safer roads mean more cyclist which help Hawaii reduce overall carbon emissions.

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 6:30:08 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM



<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Craig "Bo" Kahui	Laiopua 2020	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support HB2215 requires the driver of a vehicle passing and or overtaking a bicycle proceeding in the same direction to allow at least three feet of separation between the right side of the driver's vehicle and the left side of the bicyclist.

This is a required measure if we are to keep our roads for bicyclist.

Mahalo Nui, Craig Bo Kahui

**LATE**



### **Testimony Strongly Supporting HB2215**

Aloha Transportation Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Quinlan, and esteemed members of the Committee on Transportation:

The Maui Bicycling League, a chapter of the Hawaii Bicycling League, gives its support for the Safe Passing bill **HB2215**, which would clarify in the existing Safe Passing law, Hawaii Revised Statutes 291C-43, that 3 feet is the minimum safe distance that a motorist should provide when overtaking a bicyclist.

HB2215 will make our roads safer for cycling and for all road users by codifying a clear minimum safe passing distance, consistent with national standards and the Hawaii Driver's Manual. This codification of the recognized minimum safe passing distance will increase driver awareness of safe passing and result in safer passing practices. This is crucial to help prevent more injuries and deaths on our roads.

- 30 cyclists have been killed on Hawaii's roads in 10 years (2005-2014)
- 44% of all cyclist fatalities result from being struck from behind or sideswiped (national data)
- 12% of cyclists "felt threatened for personal safety" the last time they rode and "someone drove too close to me" was the primary reason (national data)

Safely sharing our roads requires clear and agreed upon ground rules. No driver wants to hit a cyclist, and some just don't understand what a safe passing distance is. The Safe Passing 3 Foot bill will make it clear to all drivers that 3 feet is the minimum safe passing distance.

Twenty-six states and Washington DC have amended their Safe Passing laws to include 3 feet as the minimum distance when overtaking a bicyclist. Police, cities, states, and nonprofits in these states are using signage, enforcement, and awareness campaigns to make sure their Safe Passing laws make their streets safer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Saman Dias", written in a cursive style.

**Maui Bicycling League**  
Saman Dias, **Chair**  
2/6/2017



**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 5:07:38 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
RC Blake		Support	No

Comments:

I strongly urge Hawaii to joins the others states in the union to provide bicyclists safe passage

Randall Blake

**HB-2215**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 11:49:46 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2018 10:00:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kim M		Support	No

Comments:

I am a licensed and registered motor vehicle user of Honolulu's roads to transport myself to and from work, home, and for day to day living. I am also an avid road cyclist. In an effort to maintain a healthier lifestyle and to help minimize my harmful footprint on the environment, I choose to commute at least two (typically more) days each week from home to work. During my free time, I can be found riding my bicycle along the many roads and communities of Oahu.

From my arrival here, the dangerous road conditions and unfriendly driver-etiquette towards bicyclists has tested my resolve and made me question my commitment to the sport, challenging my preference of using alternative means to commute. The lack of safe infrastructure along most of Oahu's roadways, coupled with aggressive and often openly road-possessive automobile users have repeatedly been experienced while on my bicycle. I have experienced close-calls, purposefully timed honking of car horns or shouting by vehicle occupants, and have been harassed almost regularly.

Passage of a mandated 3-foot bill would add yet another measure of protection and security to the more vulnerable users of Honolulu's roadways. Within the past few years, I have directly benefitted from the many City & State improvements, such as road diets, restriping efforts, protected bike lanes and sharrows. The continued movement towards complete streets coupled with the passage of a bill such as this, brings closer to reality a future where I can leave the car at home, opting instead to ride my bicycle, and thereby help decrease traffic congestion, gas consumption, pollution.



**LATE**

**LATE**

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

Feb. 7, 2018, 10:00 A.M.

Room 423

(Testimony is 1 page long)

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB2215**

Aloha Transportation Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Quinlan, and esteemed members of the Committee on Transportation:

The Sustainable Transportation Coalition of Hawai'i (STCH) **strongly supports HB2215**, which would amend Hawaii Revised Statutes 291C-43 to include 3 feet as the minimum safe distance that a motorist must provide when overtaking a bicyclist.

STCH is a coalition of stakeholders with the mission of serving as an advocate and education resource to “advance the energy, economic, and environmental security of Hawai'i by promoting and supporting the adoption of practices that improve mobility, reduce travel demand, increase the utilization of energy efficient modes of travel, and reduce the use of petroleum for transportation”.

Bicycling is a key component to sustainable transportation in Hawai'i. Bicycling is an ideal transportation mode in terms of sustainability; it requires no petroleum, it is very low-cost relative to other modes, it requires minimal space for parking, and it integrates well with transit.

Unfortunately, U.S. Census data for 2016 show that only 1.0% of Hawai'i commuters use a bike as their primary mode. While the reasons more people don't bicycle are many, concern about safety is a major factor. A report by the U.S. Department of Transportation National Highway Traffic Safety Administration found that 12% of cyclists “felt threatened for personal safety” the last time they bicycled and “someone drove too close to me” was the primary reason. A comprehensive analysis of bike fatalities nationally over a one-year period by the League of American Bicyclists found that 44% of all cyclist fatalities resulted from being struck from behind or being sideswiped.

HB2215 offers an enforcement and driver education tool to address safety risks associated with motorists overtaking bicyclists. While bikeway infrastructure is still needed, this law provides an avenue to address bike safety.

Thank you very much for considering our comments. If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please contact Shem Lawlor at (808) 954-6143 or [shem@blueplanetfoundation.org](mailto:shem@blueplanetfoundation.org).