



**Testimony by:**  
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Deputy Directors  
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 10, 2017  
10:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, Room 423

**H.B. 723**  
**RELATING TO HIGHWAY SAFETY**

House Committee on Transportation

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) strongly **supports** H.B. 723 relating to highway safety. This bill increases the fines for persons who commit the offense of driving a motor vehicle at an excessive speed.

Speeding continues to be a significant factor for serious traffic crashes and fatalities. The speed in which a vehicle travels will often determine the severity of the injuries and damages. The higher the speed, the more severe the injury and damages. Many crashes are the results of speeding in which the operator loses control of the vehicle and often results in the death of the drivers and/or others. In a five-year period, 2011 through 2015, there were 222 fatal crashes that resulted in 236 deaths due to speeding.

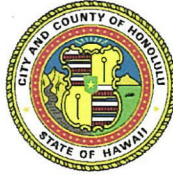
The DOT urges your support in passing H.B. 723. Increasing the fines for this violation will deter the behavior of drivers from speeding and will save lives and reduce injuries.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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MARK K. KIKUCHI, P.E.  
ACTING DIRECTOR

JON Y. NOUCHI  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 9, 2017

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair  
and Members of the Committee on Transportation  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol Room 419  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Aquino and Members of the Committee:

Subject: Testimony on House Bill No. 723 relating to Highway Safety

The Department of Transportation Services is in support of increasing driver safety throughout the island and supports House Bill 723 to increase the fines for violations of driving a motor vehicle at an excessive speed.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 723.

Very truly yours,

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

Mark K. Kikuchi, P.E.  
Acting Director

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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**THE HONORABLE HENRY J.C. AQUINO, CHAIR**  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**  
**Twenty-Ninth State Legislature**  
**Regular Session of 2017**  
**State of Hawai`i**

February 10, 2017

**RE: H.B. 723; RELATING TO HIGHWAY SAFETY.**

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Quinlan, and members of the House Committee on Transportation, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City & County of Honolulu (“Department”) submits the following testimony in opposition to H.B. 723.

The purpose of H.B. 723 is to increase the fines for excessive speeding, from \$500 to a range of \$1,500 to \$3,000.

While we understand there are significant potential dangers and risks associated with this type of behavior, we do not believe that higher fines are necessarily the answer to deterring or educating the public about this. Based on our experience, we anticipate that the proposed increase—between three (3) to six (6) times the current fine for this offense—would force a lot more cases to trial, which would add more congestion to the current voluminous caseloads at District Court, and potentially overwhelm the courts and our Department’s resources. Notably, for these particular violations (section 291C-105, Hawaii Revised Statutes), it has been our observation that the fine is actually less of a deterrent than the “SR-22” insurance repercussions that this type of conviction will necessitate. Although outside of our area of expertise, the SR-22 apparently has long-lasting effects that are particularly dreaded by most traffic offense defendants.

For all of the reasons stated above, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu opposes H.B. 723. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

**LATE**

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 12:17 AM  
To: TRNtestimony  
Cc: ahia.dye@gmail.com  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB723 on Feb 10, 2017 10:00AM\*

**HB723**

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for TRN on Feb 10, 2017 10:00AM in Conference Room 423

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ahia Dye	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: Friday, February 10, 2017 8:54 AM  
To: TRNtestimony  
Cc: victor.ramos@mpd.net  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB723 on Feb 10, 2017 10:00AM\*

**LATE**

**HB723**

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for TRN on Feb 10, 2017 10:00AM in Conference Room 423

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Victor K. Ramos	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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