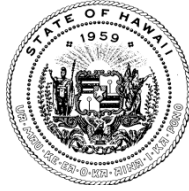


DAVID Y. IGE
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Testimony by:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
ROY CATALANI
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

April 18, 2018
1:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 225

H.C.R. 30
URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO INCLUDE THE “DUTCH REACH” OR FAR-HAND METHOD IN DRIVER’S EDUCATION CURRICULA.

Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.C.R. 30, to include the “Dutch Reach” or Far-Hand method into Hawaii’s driver’s education curricula.

The DOT supports all efforts to increase traffic safety. Therefore, DOT will include a “Dutch Reach” addendum to the driver education curriculum and further inform all certified driver education instructors at their required continuing education classes of the inclusion of this method into the curriculum.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

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April 18, 2018

Testimony Strongly Supporting HCR30/HR24

Aloha Transportation and Energy Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Espero, and esteemed members of the Committee on Transportation and Energy:

The Hawaii Bicycling League strongly supports HCR30/HR24 which urges the Department of Transportation to include the “Dutch Reach” or far-hand door opening method in driver education.

The act of opening a car door can be dangerous to passing bicyclists and drivers, which is why Hawaii law (HRS 291c-125) requires that one must open a vehicle door in a safe manner. “Dooring” or being struck by an opening door is a preventable bicycle-car crash that can result in serious injury or worse. Studies in Chicago, Boston, and Australia found that dooring crashes made up between 7-17% of bicycle crashes.

The “Dutch Reach” or far-hand door opening method is a simple motion that ensures that the driver or passenger faces and looks out into the street – and sees any approaching bicyclists or cars – before opening the vehicle door. The method is referred to as the “Dutch Reach” because it is part of driver education and in common use in the Netherlands, where the simple motion helps reduce preventable crashes and injuries. Integrating the “Dutch Reach” into Hawaii driver education will help change this simple motion and make our streets safer for all.

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) or Daniel Alexander (808-275-6717, Daniel@hbl.org).

Ride and Drive Aloha,

Chad Taniguchi
Executive Director
Hawaii Bicycling League

Daniel Alexander
Advocacy & Planning Director
Hawaii Bicycling League



Peoples Advocacy For Trails Hawai'i

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April 12, 2018

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HCR30

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO INCLUDE THE "DUTCH REACH" OR FAR-HAND METHOD IN DRIVER'S EDUCATION CURRICULA.

Aloha Transportation Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Espero, and esteemed members of the Committee on Transportation and Energy:

Doors are Dangerous - The Dutch Reach Countermeasure

PATH supports the inclusion of the 'Dutch Reach' -- the far hand method which prevents drivers and passengers from dooring cyclists or endangering themselves when opening to exit—in driver's education curricula.

Simply put: "Reach, Turn, Look." That is, *reach over* to the latch using your hand *furthest* from the door. This forces you to swivel, view the side-mirror and out to the side. You can then do an easy over-the-shoulder check for oncoming bikes and vehicles, then opening slowly when safe.

It has other advantages as well. Reaching across impedes sudden, flung-wide door opening. It works for rear passengers lacking mirrors. When stepping out you naturally and more safely exit facing traffic. And with practice it becomes *a habit - an automatic best practice*.

Last spring, Massachusetts Dept. of Transportation added this best practice to its 2017 Driver's Manual. MassDOT promoted the Reach measure with a press release, by video and animation, and with blog and social media posts.

Dooring is a daily hazard wherever cyclists ride adjacent to parked or briefly halted vehicles discharging occupants. Motorists who adopt this far safer habit reduce that risk. We believe it should be standard instruction for novice drivers, and campaigns should be mounted to retrain drivers and the general public to adopt the opposite hand habit.

For the root cause of dooring is occupant negligence: failure to look back and sudden wide opening to exit. The Dutch Reach addresses this dangerous behavior. It is applicable everywhere, by both drivers and passengers, and protects the exiting individual from harm and their vehicle as well.

Together with the 'reach', protected bike lanes, side mirrors for rear passengers, bike 'radar' or other alert systems, heightened enforcement and penalties, safe-pass practices, and dooring-defense education for cyclists, all reduce doorings.

All are needed. All take time, money and commitment. But the Dutch fix may be the quickest, easiest and least costly to roll-out. And at the same time, it raises road sharing awareness overall.

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.

HCR-30

Submitted on: 4/17/2018 10:54:13 AM

Testimony for TRE on 4/18/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

HCR-30

Submitted on: 4/16/2018 11:26:54 PM

Testimony for TRE on 4/18/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jayleen Pharmin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: House Committee on Transportation

Re: H.C.R. 30 URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO INCLUDE THE "DUTCH REACH" OR FAR-HAND METHOD IN DRIVER'S EDUCATION CURRICULA.

April 18, 2018, 1:15 PM, Room 225

My name is Jayleen Pharmin and I am testifying in support of H.C.R 30. With the increase usage of using bicycles as transportation, such safety is needed. So being able the require the "dutch reach" or far-hand method in drivers education curriculum would ensure safety for bicyclists and provides drivers of Hawaii with safer behaviors.

In conclusion, without the "dutch reach" or far-hand method accidents between cyclists and vehicles will continue to happen.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of H.C.R 30.