



Testimony by:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
ROY CATALANI
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

March 14, 2018
10:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 423

S.B. 2099, S.D. 1
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

House Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation **opposes** S.B. 2099, S.D. 1 relating to transportation in its current form.

Hawaii's autocycle law was developed using the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) "Best Practices" report. The report was developed to provide guidance to the States and encourage consistency of requirements between States. The best practices report states in part, "Autocycles operate completely differently than either two- or three-wheel motorcycles. Most autocycles operate more like passenger vehicles than motorcycles. They have a steering wheel and may have bucket seating. Acceleration and braking are typically achieved using only foot pedals as opposed to the foot and hand controls of a motorcycle." Also, turning an autocycle is more like turning a car than turning a motorcycle.

The bill removes "the steering wheel and seating that does not require the operator to straddle or sit astride on it" from the definition of an autocycle. This will make it possible for a three-wheeled motorcycle with handlebars to be classified as an autocycle, when it should be classified as a motorcycle. Even though this type of motorcycle may have seating for two that does not require the riders to "straddle or sit astride," foot pedals are not used for acceleration and braking.

The AAMVA "Best Practices" report recommends that "the differences between these types of vehicles mean they should have different operator licensing requirements. A regular passenger car license should be required to operate an autocycle, and the operator of three-wheel motorcycle should continue to have a motorcycle endorsement or license."

DOT recommends that this bill is restored back to the original language used in S.B. 2099.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



POLARIS[®]
INDUSTRIES INC.

2100 Highway 55
Medina, MN 55340-9770
763-542-0500

Mike Gentine
(763) 542-0582
fax (763) 417-2131
mike.gentine@polarisind.com

March 14, 2018

The Hon. Henry J.C. Aquino
Chair
Senate Committee on Transportation and
Energy

The Hon. Sean Quinlan
Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Transportation and
Energy

Chair Aquino and Vice-Chair Quinlan:

On behalf of Polaris, thank you for bringing SB 2099 to the Committee today and for allowing Polaris the opportunity to speak to it. SB 2099 is simply a corrections bill for a measure from last year that was ultimately enacted in law.

Last year's bill – HB 1258 – created the “autocycle” category within Hawaii’s motor vehicle code, defining autocycles as motorcycles with three wheels, non-straddle seats, and a steering wheel, and set safety standards for both riders and distributors. One of those standards was a requirement that the rider possess a valid type 3 driver’s license – an ordinary passenger car license, not a motorcycle license.

However, when the language specifying a type 3 license was added to the bill, it unfortunately cited to section 286-102(b)(2) of the code, which is the motorcycle license provision. The citation should have been to section 286-102(3). SB 2099 will correct that citation and add language regarding autocycle licensure to section 286-102, ensuring that Hawaiians with type 3 licenses can operate autocycles, as intended.

I thank you for your hard work last year and for your help this year in making sure that the code makes these innovative, exciting vehicles as accessible to Hawaiians and visitors as last year’s legislation intended them to be, and I look forward to answering any questions you may have.

Respectfully,

S. Mike Gentine
Regulatory Affairs Attorney
Polaris Industries, Inc.

SB-2099-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2018 10:23:30 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/14/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments: