

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



Testimony by:
JADE T. BUTAY
INTERIM 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

Wednesday, February 7, 2018
1:45 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 225

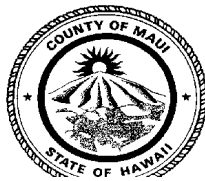
S.B. 2256
RELATING TO HIGHWAY BEAUTIFICATION

Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** this bill since it helps to defray the additional cost in the disposition and other related activities of abandoned or derelict vehicles as prescribed in chapter 290.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

1ALAN M. ARAKAWA
MAYOR



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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Ke`ena O Ka Meia
COUNTY OF MAUI – Kalana O Maui

February 7, 2018

TESTIMONY OF ALAN M ARAKAWA
MAYOR
COUNTY OF MAUI

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION & ENERGY

Wednesday, February 7, 2018, 1:45pm
Conference Room 225

SB2255 RELATING TO HIGHWAY BEAUTIFICATION.

Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Honorable Will Espero, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Transportation & Energy

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT OF SB2256.**

The purpose of this bill is to make the motor vehicle registration fee for U-drive motor vehicles consistent with the fee for all other motor vehicles. Also, it makes any county ordinance that increases a motor vehicle registration fee applicable to U-drive vehicles.

Currently, Maui County's Highway Beautification fund is drastically underfunded. There are a large number of abandoned vehicles that start off as rental cars and get sold on the used car market and eventually abandoned. The funds to remove these vehicles comes from the Highway Beautification fees.

Allowing the County to charge the rental vehicles the same amount of fees as purchased vehicles will significantly help remove these same vehicles from our roadways.

I strongly urge you to pass SB2256.

Sincerely,

Alan M. Arakawa
Mayor, County of Maui

SB-2256

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 1:44:12 PM

Testimony for TRE on 2/7/2018 1:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tamara Farnsworth	County of Maui Dep't of Env. Mgmt.	Support	No

Comments:

County of Maui Department of Environmental Management, which administers the Abandoned Vehicles program, is in full support of this bill. Increased revenues for the Highway Beautification Fund are necessary due to a statewide increase of abandoned vehicles on public roadways as well as significant increases in disposal costs.

SB-2256

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 8:07:53 AM

Testimony for TRE on 2/7/2018 1:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marci Sato	County of Maui	Support	No

Comments:

Good morning,

The County of Maui is in support of raising the highway beautification fee cap for U-drive vehicles. We believe that it is fair for rent-a-car companies to pay their share to assist in the upkeep of our highways. Rising costs for abandoned vehicles and other beautification activities further justify the need for the increase on the cap. Thank you for your consideration.

Marci M. Sato

Deputy Director of Finance

County of Maui

Council Chair
Mike White

Vice-Chair
Robert Carroll

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Stacy Crivello

Councilmembers
Alika Atay
Elle Cochran
Don S. Guzman
Riki Hokama
Kelly T. King
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

February 5, 2018

To: Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye
Chair, Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy

From: Riki Hokama
Councilmember

**SUBJECT: Testimony in Support of SB2256 RELATING TO HIGHWAY
BEAUTIFICATION**

The Highway Beautification Fund has long been a highly useful tool for Maui County to conduct important operations relating to highways under our jurisdiction, as well as in dealing with abandoned vehicles. Based on current totals for Fiscal Year 2018, and taking into account the estimated 20,000 to 25,000 registered U-drive vehicles on Maui, the County could see an estimated \$180,000 to \$225,000 of additional revenue from certificates of registration if this bill were in place.

Making the Statute uniform streamlines administration and collection, and will also provide Maui County with additional revenue. I urge passing of this bill, and thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Riki Hokama".

RIKI HOKAMA
Councilmember

Council Chair
Mike White

Vice-Chair
Robert Carroll

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Stacy Crivello

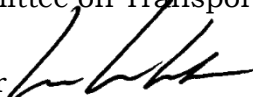
Councilmembers
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Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



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February 6, 2018

TO: The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy

FROM: Mike White
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 7, 2018; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2256, RELATING TO HIGHWAY BEAUTIFICATION**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure. The purpose of this bill is to make the motor vehicle registration fee for U-drive motor vehicles consistent with the fee for all other motor vehicles.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I **support** this measure for the following reasons:

1. U-drive motor vehicles, better known as rental vehicles, benefit from a lower highway beautification fee as compared to all other vehicles. The fee is particularly important, as the revenues fund highway beautification projects and the disposal of abandoned or derelict vehicles, which is an on-going issue throughout Maui County.
2. Visitor counts continue to grow, which places a larger burden on county resources. Since the counties transient accommodation tax has been capped, the county has had to pick up the increased burden resulting from more visitors. As a result, county resources have become increasingly strapped, including the County's highway beautification fund, which has experienced shortfalls. This measure will help ensure funds are available to keep our highways clean and abandoned and derelict vehicles off our roadways.
5. U-drive motor vehicles share the roads alongside all other vehicles. Therefore, U-drive vehicle owners should contribute equally to highway beautification.

For the foregoing reasons, I strongly **support** this measure.

SB-2256

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 3:54:23 PM

Testimony for TRE on 2/7/2018 1:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Carroll	County of Maui	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB 2256 for the reasons cited in testimony submitted by Maui County Council Chair Mike White. Thank you.