



ALAN M.
ARAKAWA
MAYOR

200 South High Street
Wailuku, Maui, Hawai'i 96793-2155
Telephone (808) 270-7855
Fax (808) 270-7870
E-mail: mayors.office@mauicounty.gov

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

February 22, 2018



TESTIMONY OF ALAN M ARAKAWA
MAYOR
COUNTY OF MAUI

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Friday, February 23, 2018, 10:00 A.M.
Conference Room 221

SB2479 RELATING TO ABANDONED VEHICLES.

Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Thank you for the opportunity to submit **comments** on SB2479.

While I understand and support the intent of this bill, I have concerns with the following items:

Page 1 Line 11 – The County of Maui (COM) maintains that a ten-day requirement to tow is unrealistic in many cases. May I suggest that language be added to provide for “extenuating circumstances,” to be defined by ordinance, the counties would then have some leeway to adequately comply with the requirements of this bill?

Page 2 Line 9 - While providing notification to registered owners can be an administrative burden, it seems excessive to amend the requirement to apply only for vehicles that have been “reported stolen.” Many owners may not be aware their vehicles were towed and become informed only through the notification letter that is sent to them. The COM thinks that this amendment would open counties to legal challenges, especially when some owners may only find out their cars were towed, and potentially subsequently destroyed, via a demand for payment or otherwise, after the process was completed. It is our position that it is within the rights of constituents that counties do due diligence to provide reasonable notice that their abandoned vehicles were towed and stored before we take further action.

Page 3 Line 18 - COM does not have a Department of Customer Services. May I suggest language used in HB2442 that would identify “the agency designated by the mayor to carry out the functions and requirements of this section.”

Page 4 Line 3 - In the COM, vehicle registrations and titles are recorded with Department of Finance, Division of Motor Vehicles and Licensing, and not a department of customer services.

Page 5 Line 5 - It is helpful for counties to gain the ability to waive the public auction requirement. May I suggest the language of HB2442 that waives the requirement, rather than striking it completely from the legislation in in this version of SB2479. Auctions can be useful in *generating some revenue* and in *decreasing disposal costs*, as well as providing opportunity to the community to reuse resources before opting for automatic disposal.

Sincerely,

Alan M. Arakawa
Mayor, County of Maui

LATE

February 23, 2018

TO: The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair and Members of the
Committee on Public Safety
The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair and Members of the Committee
On Transportation and Energy

FROM: Rachael Ke, Mental Health Case Worker / Student of the Myron B.
Thompson School of Social Work

SUBJECT: SB2479 Relating to Abandoned Vehicles

POSITION: Aloha my name is Rachael Ke and I strongly support SB2479. I've been a resident of the Wai`anae community for 18 years since moving from my hometown of Kailua. Wai`anae is such a beautiful place with beautiful beaches and friendly people. However, it has become a dumping ground for unwanted vehicles, and not just people from our community but outsiders come to dump as well. Our beaches and neighborhoods are littered with vehicles that are not only unsafe, but a health hazard as well.

The city claims there is no space, well they need to create space or figure out ways to dispose of these vehicles properly. We want our community and beaches to be safe and clean and for everyone to enjoy. So please consider SB2479. Mahalo for allowing me this opportunity to share my testimony. Malama ke kahi I ke kahi!