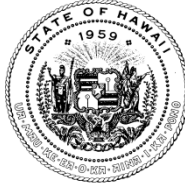


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN
DEREK J. CHOW
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

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

February 4, 2019
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Room 225



S.B 309
RELATING TO TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS

Senate Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** this bill.

DOT supports all efforts to reduce traffic fatalities and injuries.

During the calendar years of 2014-2018, eight (8) truck bed occupants died on Hawaii's roads after being ejected from the bed of a pickup truck as the result of a motor vehicle crash.

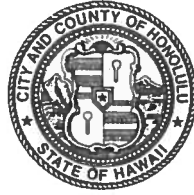
According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, researchers found that people riding in the bed or cargo areas of a pickup truck were nine (9) times more likely to be killed when compared to the general population of those involved in other crashes.

DOT seeks to protect all passengers riding in a motor vehicle being operated on any public roadways. We believe that this bill will help reduce unnecessary motor vehicle fatalities and injuries on our roadways.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 529-3111 · INTERNET: www.honolulu.org



KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR

SUSAN BALLARD
CHIEF

JOHN D. MCCARTHY
JONATHAN GREMS
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE

AP-GR

February 4, 2019

The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
and Members
Committee on Transportation
State Senate
415 South Beretania Street, Room 225
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Inouye and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 309, Relating to Traffic Violations

I am Andre Peters, Acting Captain of the Traffic Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu. The HPD supports the passage of Senate Bill No. 309, Relating to Traffic Violations.

The HPD has long been in support of restricting all passengers from riding in the beds of pickup trucks. Crash data has shown that riding unrestrained in the bed of a pickup truck is a contributing factor in critical and fatal traffic collisions.

The passage of this bill would remove the age restriction currently in place. The HPD would no longer have to ascertain the age of the occupants in the rear of a pickup truck.

The HPD urges you to support Senate Bill No. 309, Relating to Traffic Violations.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Ballard", written over a horizontal line.

Susan Ballard
Chief of Police

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andre Peters", written over a horizontal line.

Andre Peters, Acting Captain
Traffic Division



Subject: Support SB309

Dear Senator Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Harimoto and Members of the Senate Committee on Transportation,

My name is Kari Benes and I am the chair of the Hawaii Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) asking for your **support of SB309**, which repeals the age exemption pertaining to riding in the cargo area of a pickup truck. This measure is one of the SHSP's life-saving priorities for 2019.

According to Hawaii Department of Transportation, from 2011 to 2017 there were **22 fatalities** involving a passenger in a cargo area of a vehicle. If passed, this measure would encourage occupants to be seated in the safest area of a pickup truck, which is inside the cab. By repealing the age requirement, this measure extends safety to all occupants of motor vehicles.

The Hawaii Strategic Highway Safety Plan's vision is that all of Hawaii's road users arrive safely at their destinations. You can help us achieve our goal of reducing yearly fatalities, by supporting this measure.

To view the Strategic Highway Safety Plan go to www.hawaiishsp.com

Strategic Highway Safety Plan Mission

Save lives and reduce injuries on Hawaii's roadways through strategic partnerships and implementation of the Strategic Highway Safety Plan.



LATE

Testimony in SUPPORT of SB309

To: Representative Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair and Members. Committee on Transportation

Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition (KIPC) supports SB309, Relating to Traffic Violations

I am Lisa Dau, RN, Injury Prevention Coordinator for Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition (KIPC). KIPC supports the passage of SB309 relating to traffic violations and truck bed passengers. It is KIPC's stand that the truck bed should never be used for any passengers due to the potential risk of serious injury or death from a traffic crash or incident. There are no safety measures for any passenger riding in the bed of a pickup truck, and therefore one of the most unsafe places to have an unrestrained passenger or any age.

Please pass this very important bill to ensure the safety off all passengers in a pickup truck.

Mahalo,

Lisa Dau, RN
Injury Prevention Coordinator
Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition

LATE

SB-309

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 8:13:57 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/4/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Local families in rural locations, i.e., Moloka'i, Hana, Lana'i, Kaupo, Kipahulu...etc. that can only afford work vehicles (trucks), may be negatively impacted by the narrowing of this law.