



**TESTIMONY BY:**

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**LATE**

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

January 29, 2020  
1:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 225

**S.B. 2067**  
**RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE SUN SCREENING DEVICES**

Senate Committee on Transportation

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The Department of Transportation **opposes** this bill to eliminate the minimum light transmittance requirement for side windows that are to the rear of the driver and for the rear window which are necessary for safe driving visibility.

A minimum of 35% light transmittance is already a compromise of the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard of 70%, which was established after extensive research. Removing the 35% minimum requirement will result in the installation of very low transmittance tint, which can further compromise visibility and safety, especially at night.

Manufacturers install three mirrors in new vehicles to maximize visibility for the driver. The use of three mirrors minimizes the hazard of mirror blind spots, but even with three mirrors which may be enhanced with small convex mirrors, blind spots exist, and it is wise to use a head check before changing lanes. Allowing dark tint on the rear side windows will decrease side visibility and increase the potential for a crash with a vehicle in the mirror blind spot.

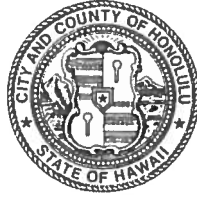
Visibility through side windows is also helpful when parking, even if a rear-view camera is installed. Rear view cameras differ in capabilities. Some cameras may only show a 90-degree field of view, while others may have up to a 120-degree view. In either case, they are limited to the rear of the vehicle; no information about the side of the vehicle is provided.

Placing very dark tint on the windows noted in this bill will make it easier to conceal criminal activity, such as an abduction, that is taking place in a vehicle. It may also put law enforcement officers at higher risk when they cannot see through the rear and rear side windows of a vehicle that they pull over.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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OUR REFERENCE CT-LC

January 29, 2020

**LATE**

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

Dear Chair Inouye and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 2067, Relating to Motor Vehicle Sun Screening Devices

I am Calvin Tong, Major of the Traffic Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD opposes Senate Bill No. 2067, Relating to Motor Vehicle Sun Screening Devices.

The HPD opposes the proposal to repeal a provision requiring light transmittance of no less than 35 percent on the side and rear windows of certain vehicles using sun screening devices and glazing material. The proposal also includes language that would expand exemption from regulation of sun screening the side windows and rear windows of certain motor vehicles, including passenger vehicles, provided that the vehicles are equipped with rearview mirrors.

Dark tint poses a safety concern on our roadways as it can limit a driver's ability to see when they are turning, backing, or changing lanes. It also poses a serious risk to law enforcement officers as they are unable to see the occupants, weapons, or other potential hazards within the vehicles while on traffic stops or criminal investigations. Any proposal that decreases safety for the public and law enforcement should not be considered or accepted.

The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair  
and Members  
January 29, 2020  
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The HPD urges you to oppose Senate Bill No. 2067, Relating to Motor Vehicle Sun Screening Devices, and we appreciate the committee's consideration of these concerns.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Calvin Tong, Major  
Traffic Division

APPROVED:



Susan Ballard  
Chief of Police



January 27, 2020

**Testimony of Tommy Silva  
In support of S.B. No. 2067  
Relating to Motor Vehicle Sun Screening Devices.**

Good afternoon Senate Transportation Committee, its Vice-Chair Sen. Breene Harimoto and its Chair Sen. Lorraine Inouye;

My name is Tommy Silva and I am the Founder & CEO of T&T Tinting Specialists, Inc. I am here to testify in support of S.B. No. 2067.

My company has been tinting vehicle windows in Hawaii since 1982 and I have 35 full-time employees working in two Honolulu locations. I have always been an advocate for safe & legal tinting standards, and I have testified here dozens of times over the past 38 years in support of our current Hawaii State Tint Law and our current methods of enforcement through annual Vehicle Safety Inspection and HPD citations for violations found on the street.

Our current auto tint law has been on the books since July 13, 1983. It allows 35% (+/- 6%) Visible Light Transmittance for "Passenger Vehicles" windows (except for the front windshield), while windows rear of the driver on Pickup Trucks, Vans, SUV's and now "Crossovers" (collectively called "MPV's" going forward) have been exempt from the ruling when the MPV is equipped with two side-view mirrors.

I fully support SB #2067 because the current law is discriminatory against passenger vehicle owners and it is has been difficult to explain to passenger vehicle owners why they are currently not allowed to install window film as dark as they have on the rear windows of their MPV's. Our state allows the same "Type 3" driver's license to operate both Passenger Vehicles and MPV's, so it is illogical to have two different tint standards for these two categories- this bill clears this up.

Hawaii is not the first State to bring parity to Passenger Vehicle and MPV after-market window tinting... Passage of this bill will place Hawaii into the same status of these other states who already allow the same level of after-market window tinting on Passenger Vehicles and MPV's:

Kentucky, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, Oklahoma, Texas, Florida and Vermont.

Please pass this bill.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tommy Silva', written over a horizontal line.

Tommy Silva, CEO/President  
T&T Tinting Specialists, Inc.

**LATE**

**SB-2067**

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 2:58:03 PM

Testimony for TRS on 1/29/2020 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Richard Janik	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this bill.

Richard J Janik, MD