DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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KIRK CALDWELL MAYOR



WES FRYSZTACKI DIRECTOR

JON Y. NOUCHI DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH (CPH)

FEBRUARY 20, 2020 10:00 AM

IN SUPPORT OF SB 2120 – RELATING TO GIFT CERTIFICATES

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Transportation Services is in <u>strong support</u> this measure; it is part of the Hawaii Council of Mayors (HCOM) 2020 legislative package.

Like many other large cities, Honolulu has adopted a smart card for public transit passengers to pay for fares on TheBus and Handi-Van. Our HOLO card may be registered and reloaded, eliminates the need to purchase daily and monthly bus passes, may be programmed for discounted users like youth and seniors, and will be the sole form of fare payment on rail. There is great potential in future uses of the HOLO card including the possibility of payment for on-street parking, permits, and registration fees.

This measure seeks to clearly distinguish the HOLO card, and other similar county cards, from gift cards and gift certificates. The existing language in the statute on gift certificates and exceptions thereto may be clarified by adopting affirmative language proposed by SB 2120. Certain requirements of private businesses and retailers regarding gift certificates are not necessarily applicable to county-issued and county-administered cards. Clarification of the exception will support the administration of the smart card program, especially with regard to unspent value and redemption of cash balances.

Thank you for consideration of this measure and for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

MICHAEL P. VICTORINO Mayor

MARC I. TAKAMORI Director

MICHAEL B. DU PONT Deputy Director





DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COUNTY OF MAUI 200 SOUTH HIGH STREET WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAI'I 96793

> TELEPHONE: (808) 270-7511 FAX: (808) 270-7505

> > February 18, 2020

TO: The Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

The Honorable Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, February 20, 2020 10:00AM

Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 229

415 South Beretania Street

FROM: Marc I. Takamori

Director of Transportation

SUBJECT: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB2120 RELATING TO GIFT CERTIFICATES

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and members of the committee,

The County of Maui, Department of Transportation (MDOT) **SUPPORTS** SB2120 which seeks to clearly distinguish certain county-issued cards from gift cards and gift certificates. The existing language in the statute on gift certificates and exceptions thereto may be clarified by adopting affirmative language proposed by SB2120.

Honolulu has adopted a smart card for public transit passengers to pay for fares on TheBus and Handi-Van. The HOLO card may be registered and reloaded, eliminating the need to purchase daily and monthly bus passes and may be programmed for discounted users like youth and seniors. MDOT which oversees the Maui Bus program has been considering a smart card system for its public transit system.

Thank you for providing us the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.