

HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SCOTT J. GLENN
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

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Testimony of
SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer

before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER
PROTECTION AND COMMERCE**

Wednesday, February 10, 2021
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 329

Comments in consideration of
HB 72 HD1
RELATING TO ELECTRIC FOOT SCOOTERS.

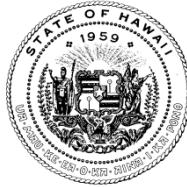
Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) offers comments on HB 72, HD1, which would establish a framework for the regulation of electric foot scooters by the State and counties.

Our comments are guided by our mission to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy, energy resiliency, and clean transportation to help achieve a decarbonized economy.

HSEO supports the intent of HB 72 HD1 in providing for a regulatory framework for electric foot scooters to increase safety, clean transportation and more micro-mobility options. The HSEO defers to the Counties on issues pertaining to safety, enforcement and regulation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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 10, 2021
2:00 P.M.
State Capitol, Teleconference

H.B. 72, H.D. 1
RELATING TO ELECTRIC FOOT SCOOTERS

House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

The Department of Transportation **supports** H.B. 72, H.D. 1 which establishes a framework for the regulation of electric foot scooters by the State and counties, and amends the definition of "moped" to exclude electric foot scooters.

As the use of micro-mobility devices increases, the State of Hawaii will continue to work with the four counties as they evaluate and prioritize this new and alternative form of transportation to ensure safe and equitable usage on our roadways.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 3RD FLOOR
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
Phone: (808) 768-8305 • Fax: (808) 768-4730 • Internet: www.honolulu.gov

RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR



J. ROGER MORTON
DIRECTOR DESIGNATE

JON Y. NOUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TESTIMONY TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE (CPC)

FEBRUARY 10, 2021
2:00 PM

**IN SUPPORT OF
HB 72, HD1 – RELATING TO ELECTRIC FOOT SCOOTERS**

Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Transportation Services is in strong support of this measure that introduces electric foot scooters into the Statewide Traffic Code and other applicable sections of the Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Electric foot scooters and other micromobility options have enormous potential to be a solution to reducing transportation costs, vehicle congestion on our roads, dependence on fossil fuels, and pollutants and harmful emissions. These vehicles are also a good option for first-mile/last-mile connections for many who use public transit as a primary mode of transportation. We are seeing electric foot scooters on our roads more frequently now, and it is time to adopt the necessary statutes to appropriately regulate these vehicles. Without this bill, this viable transportation solution will remain illegal.

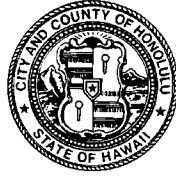
In addition to allowing for the use of these new vehicle types in Hawaii and establishing minimum standards, we appreciate that this bill affords each county the ability to further regulate scooters within the statewide framework in a manner that suits the respective counties. As our agency is responsible for providing a multimodal transportation system for the City and County of Honolulu, this measure will enable us to incorporate shared fleets into our system.

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

DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES **LATE**
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

MISSION MEMORIAL BUILDING
550 SOUTH KING STREET, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 768-3392 FAX: (808) 768-1591
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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR



NOLA MIYASAKI
DIRECTOR

February 10, 2021

The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair
The Honorable Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair
And Members of the Consumer Protection & Commerce
The State House of Representatives
State Capitol, Conference Room 329
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Johanson and Members of the Committee on Transportation:

SUBJECT: H.B. No. 72, H.D. 1 – Relating to Electric Foot Scooters

The City and County of Honolulu, Department of Customer Services (CSD)
supports this measure.

The bill establishes the framework for the regulation of electric foot scooters and amends the definition of "moped" to exclude foot scooters.

This bill requires the counties to register foot scooters by issuing a permanent registrations which will require computer programming by the Department of Information Technology. Therefore, we recommend the effective date be amended to January 1, 2022.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on H.B. No. 72, H.D. 1.

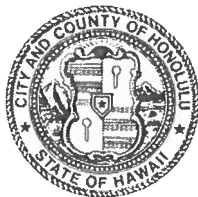
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nola Miyasaki".

Nola Miyasaki
Director

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR

SUSAN BALLARD
CHIEF

JOHN D. McCARTHY
AARON TAKASAKI-YOUNG
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE WO-BL

February 10, 2021

The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair
and Members
Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
House of Representatives
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 329
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Johanson and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 72, H.D. 1, Relating to Electric Foot Scooters

I am Walter Ozeki, Major of District 7 (East Honolulu) of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports passage of House Bill No. 72, H.D. 1, Relating to Electric Foot Scooters.

The HPD recognizes that the use of electric foot scooters has become more commonplace on or along our roadways. Electric foot scooters are able to reach considerable speeds and the scooters themselves are of a considerable mass. Currently, there are almost no regulations that specifically govern the operation or safety equipment required to operate these devices in a safe manner.

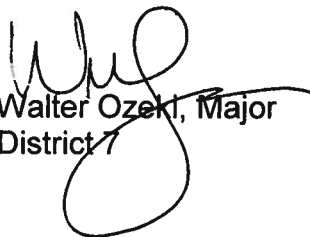
It has been observed that now more than ever we see pedestrians and all types of smaller and larger vehicles intermingled on our roadways. It is the HPD's belief that as we see the number of electric scooters on our roadways increase, it is inevitable that we will also see the number of collisions involving these devices increase proportionately. It is imperative that regulations governing both the operation of electric foot scooters as well as required safety equipment be regulated. This is essential to minimize the risk to everyone utilizing our roadways.

The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair
and Members
February 10, 2021
Page 2

The HPD supports passage of House Bill No. 72, H.D. 1, Relating to Electric Foot Scooters.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Walter Ozek, Major
District 7

APPROVED:



Susan Ballard
Chief of Police



February 10, 2021

Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair
Representative Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, House
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii

Testimony in Support of HB 72 Relating to Electric Foot Scooters

Dear Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Kitagawa, esteemed Members of the House Consumer Protection and Commerce Committee, and staff:

My name is Breanna Bledsoe, Senior Public Policy Manager for Spin, and we support HB 72 relating to electric foot scooters. Spin is a shared micromobility company based in California, operating in about 70 markets across the United States and Europe. Our partnership-first approach is unique in the industry, because we work with local governments and receive permission before operating. We thank you for your diligent efforts in drafting necessary regulations for the budding but fast-growing shared micromobility industry, which will help reduce the number of car trips on the islands.

While Spin supports HB 72, we respectfully suggest one amendment to the bill: we ask the Committee consider a lower registration fee to encourage micromobility transportation use and increase community accessibility. We are happy to work with the Committee and staff on a fee structure that would be advantageous to Hawaii, feasible for e-scooter companies, and provide an affordable and accessible form of green transportation.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify, and we look forward to working with you and your Committee to pass this legislation. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Breanna Bledsoe, Spin
Senior Public Policy Manager

**TESTIMONY OF NAHELANI WEBSTER ON BEHALF OF THE HAWAII
ASSOCIATION FOR JUSTICE (HAJ) IN OPOSITION TO H.B. 72 H.D. 1**

Date: February 10, 2021

Time: 2:00 p.m.

To: Chair Aaron Johanson, and members of the House Committee on Consumer
Protection & Commerce:

My name is Nahelani Webster and I am presenting this testimony on behalf of the Hawaii Association for Justice (HAJ) in opposition to H.B. 72 H.D.1, Relating to Electric Foot Scooters. We oppose the provision of H.B. 72 H.D.1 giving counties authority to regulate insurance requirements for Electric Scooters. Insurance matters are handled with greater expertise and consistency on the state level and the bill as currently drafted invites inaction, confusion, and inconsistent treatment of this important public safety issue.

The bill properly reflects that matters relating to operation, speed and safety of motorized vehicles are best handled by counties, since they are expert in local conditions and enforcement of traffic ordinances.

But insurance is another matter. Counties are not in a position to evaluate actuarial trends or coordinate coverage requirements with insurers. Providing notice to the public of insurance regulations would also be a challenge. Moreover, if counties were to impose different insurance requirements, this would create a hardship for residents, businesses and insurance providers. A driver new to an island can know to look for the speed limit and other traffic regulations via signage, and adjust their behavior to comply. A person who arrives on the island with an Electric Foot Scooter probably would not know the county's unique insurance rules and would not be in a position to comply.

On the other hand, the State, through this body and the Hawaii Insurance Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, is in a position to work with insurers and gather data on accidents and injuries to determine whether and when insurance coverage for Electric Foot Scooters should be required. Those requirements can be communicated to carriers licensed to do business in the state, so that they can make such coverage available at a reasonable cost. The Insurance Division is also in position to ensure that new requirements are communicated to residents and visitors, just as it has done many times in the past.

We also encourage the committee to keep “electric foot scooter” under the definition of “moped” in order to provide individuals with personal injury protection should they get injured. If this protection were removed individuals who are injured or harmed would need to seek coverage under their own private insurance, if they have any, to obtain coverage for their medical injuries.

For these reasons, HAJ opposes H.D. 72 H.D.1 as currently drafted and would encourage the Committee to amend the Bill to delete the provision committing regulation of insurance requirements for electric foot scooters to the counties and keep “electric foot scooter” under the definition of “moped.”

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and we are available should you have any questions.

HB-72-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2021 11:33:49 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/10/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ed Sniffen	Hawaii DOT	Support	No

Comments:

I am with the DOT and am available for comments