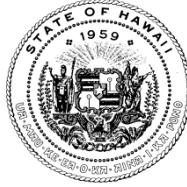


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



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

March 23, 2021
2:00 P.M.
State Capitol, Teleconference

**S.B. 57, S.D. 2, H.D. 1
RELATING TO VEHICLE INSPECTIONS**

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** S.B. 57, S.D. 2, H.D. 1 which proposes to eliminate the reconstructed vehicle inspection program on Oahu as of January 1, 2022. The bill also requires the DOT to submit a report addressing the effects of repealing section 286-85 Hawaii Revised Statutes to the Legislature no later than July 1, 2024. The Act will be repealed on July 31, 2025 and section 286-25, Hawaii Revised Statutes will be reenacted in the form in which it read on December 31, 2021.

The purpose of the reconstructed vehicle program is to ensure that modifications to motor vehicles do not result in a significant degradation of highway safety. However, the people who inspect the vehicles are not engineers and often lack the expertise necessary to make an accurate judgement of the quality of work that was done on the modifications or their ramifications. To compensate for this weakness, the inspectors often rely on section 19-134-22, Hawaii Administrative Rules, which requires the vehicle owner to obtain approval of the design plans by a registered professional engineer. This is a difficult requirement, because the vehicle owners typically do not have a design plan, and they come to the recon station after the work is finished. Finding an engineer that will accept responsibility for the plans and the work that was done at this point is virtually impossible.

Two modifications that require approval by a registered professional engineer are (1) converting an independent suspension to a straight single axle and (2) a C-notch modification used to lower a vehicle. Both modifications involve welding or cutting the frame. When a frame is cut or welded, it voids the manufacturer's warranty and certification of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards compliance. The engineer would be asked to identify federal standards that are defeated or compromised by the modification and then explain why the vehicle is as safe or safer than it was before the modification. In addition, the engineer must approve the design plans.

Even if an engineer certifies a plan, that does not guarantee that the modification will be made in accordance with the plan. As a result, people who make or desire to make these modifications cannot pass a recon inspection and register their vehicles in Hawaii.

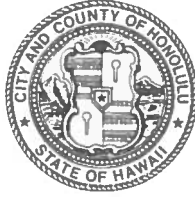
If Honolulu had no recon program, reconstructed vehicles would need only to meet the regular motor vehicle inspection requirements. These requirements duplicate some of the recon inspection items, such as maximum bumper height and tire treads being covered by a fender or fender flare.

The reconstructed vehicle inspection program is not required on the neighbor islands. In those Counties reconstructed vehicle owners simply need to pass the periodic motor vehicle inspection program to register their vehicles. We suggest that this system should work on Oahu as well as it does on the Neighbor Islands.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

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 CT-LC

March 23, 2021

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

Dear Chair Johanson and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 57, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, Relating to Vehicle Inspections

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

The HPD appreciates the intent of Senate Bill No. 57, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, Relating to Vehicle Inspections, and submits the following comments.

Currently, vehicle inspectors at reconstruction stations are severely understaffed. Permitting the state director of transportation to supervise and certify all inspectors authorized to conduct vehicle inspections at official inspection stations will allow the public more options for seeking a reconstruction vehicle permit.

However, we do have concerns with the elimination of the reconstruction permitting process. Without the permitting process, those seeking to modify their vehicles would be given free rein to modify their vehicles as they wish, with possible disregard to the safety of their occupants and other motorists on the roadway.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and for considering our comments and concerns.

APPROVED:

Handwritten signature of Susan Ballard in cursive script.

Susan Ballard
Chief of Police

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Calvin Tong in cursive script.

Calvin Tong, Major
Traffic Division

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 5:57:37 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bobby jay Gouveia	808 street rods	Support	No

Comments:

Hi my name is Bobby Gouveia and I represent 808 street rods which has a total of 4000 members we support SB57 due to the fact that our safety inspectors station are more then educated enough and ASE certified to make the call on rather a vehicle is safe enough for our roads on Oahu and that we are the only island that has such a law for vehicles with after market parts that does not do any harm to our roads on this island look at they other islands that has no recon there roads are way better shape then ours so I ask you all to eliminate recon from our island of Oahu thank you for your time and have your self a safe and beautiful week and weekend.
Rods.

808 Street
Bobby I Gouveia 808 Street

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/20/2021 6:19:06 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Justin McClain	4Runnation, Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha. I support the removal of the reconstruction inspection as a requirement for any and all automobiles with aftermarket suspension components. There are many individuals on Oahu who have had discarded perfectly good vehicles because they were unable to pass the recon inspection. I believe if this bill is passed it would help elevate some abandoned cars we find on the road now. I stand with Universal 4x4 and others who support the removal of the inspection

SB-57-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2021 2:42:02 PM

Testimony for CPN on 2/23/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
LIBRADO COBIAN	Testifying for OMA Oahu Motorsports Association	Support	No

Comments:

IN SUPPORT OF SB 57

My name is Li Cobian of the Oahu Motorsports Association. Our organization supports the Recon Inspection Repeal Bill SB57 . Oahu is the only island in the State if Hawaii with Recon inspection. It is a outdated requirement that started in the 60's that was enacted to inspect cars for stolen parts , it had nothing to do with safety . Current safety check is more stringent that RECON and covers all safety aspects of motor vehicles . Li Cobian of OMA (Oahu Motorsports Association)



"An eating club with a car disorder."

March 22, 2021

RE: SB57 SD2 HD1

Aloha Chair and Committee Members,

The Aloha Mustang & Shelby Club of Hawaii **stands in strong support** of a racetrack on the island of Oahu. We feel that our public streets and highways have been turned into racetracks. The problem is so widespread that police will never be able to effectively stop it for any length of time.

Please contact Li Cobian at (808) 349-7717. He has an effective plan to create a bare bones racetrack at little cost to taxpayers which will make Oahu a safer place to be.

Sincerely,
Scot Shimamura, President
Aloha Mustang & Shelby Club of Hawaii

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 7:02:26 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bobby Failma	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of SB57.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 7:09:19 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Vladez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of SB57. It is an outdated system that is understaffed run by unqualified people.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 7:15:57 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
danny yamada	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hi and good day. As a law abiding tax paying citizen I am in support of sb57 to get rid of reconstructed vehicle permits.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 7:22:03 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jack Meoff	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of Sb57. A state without recon works as it is proven on all the other Hawai'i islands.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 7:23:47 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Evans	US Military	Support	No

Comments:

Hi. My name is Robert Evans. I am stationed here on Honolulu and am at Kaneohe at Marine Corps Base Hawaii. I am in support of SB57. I and many others in the military and outside the military have issues with getting our vehicles legal. I am un able to register my truck because I can't get safety check. I can't get safety check cause I can't pass recon. I've been stationed on many different states and never had any issues registering my truck. My truck can pass whatever safety measures the states I've been to have including passing California's smog test. Recon is an inconvenience for a lot of us. I don't want to drive my vehicle illegally like I see many others do cause of Recon. Right now my truck is parked at a friends home cause I can't drive it on base and I had to buy another vehicle. Please pass this Sb57.

Thanks you.

Robert Evans

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 7:28:42 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Force	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support Sb57. If this bill passes I'll be able to drive my vehicle legally.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 7:32:48 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bobby Gumtang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of Sb57. This bill will allow a lot of people including my self to be able to legally drive my truck here. Because of recon I'm unable to get my legal to drive.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 7:34:56 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
harold Hashimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support sb57 Oahu is the only county in Hawai'i that has ever been required to perform this. This should be a process performed by Hawai'i state motor vehicle inspection stations

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 7:36:11 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Walter Hope Jr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB57.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 7:37:07 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donald Nedib	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hi. As a law abiding citizen and taxpayer I support this bill to get rid of recon.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 7:41:49 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
skyer akina	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am currently enlisted in the U.S. Army and got stationed at Fort Shafter, HI. The reconstruction permit was a major inconvenience to myself and other military personnel in regards to getting my vehicle legal in the state of Hawaii. The reconstruction permit is a tedious and unnecessary part of Hawaii's vehicle registration process and should cease to continue.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 7:42:52 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Gervacio	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support sb57. The people working at the recon station are not qualified to do what they are doing. Safety check should be enough since they are qualified to inspect vehicles. I know a lot of military people that come here and can't get their vehicles street legal because of recon. A lot of them have been to many states and is able to get their vehicles legal to drive them they come here and can't get it legal to drive. It's a major burden on our military that are stationed here.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 7:49:42 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kai Green	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support sb57. Recon is done by unqualified people. Safety check should be enough cause the people doing safety check are qualified to make sure the vehicles are safe. A state without recon works and it is proven on all other islands.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 7:58:35 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ricky Whitehead	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support sb57. It would be beneficial to hawaii case then a lot of people including the military will be able to get their vehicles legal and drive it legally on the road.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 8:06:02 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jessi Combs	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of SB57. Recon station is understaffed and under qualified and is a waste of state money.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 9:38:05 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Luka Dayton-Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of SB57 to get rid of the reconstruction vehicle inspections. Mahalo Nui

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/20/2021 8:45:45 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Travis archer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the repeal of the recon law.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2021 8:05:45 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
oli	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of bill SB57 to get rid of reconstructed vehicle inspection on Oahu

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2021 11:05:43 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I appreciate the Reconstruction Law as a privilege to car enthusiasts who wish to modify their vehicles for recreation. A reconstruction permit is needed only if a vehicle is modified beyond the extent that can't be passed by safety check. Safety check doesn't allow for much modification beyond changing tires, exhaust, and body kits. Therefore, I am testifying in opposition to this bill of repealing recon.

My main concern though is that the majority of the community who are following this bill and in support of it are under the impression that with the passing of this bill, they will be free to modify their vehicle as they please (which will still be illegal to do so), making it a safety hazard for public roadways. For example, a straight front axle conversion where the frame is cut and welded to change the axle thus compromising the structural strength of the frame (welds can break causing axle to fall off which will allow for a potential accident while driving) or lifting a vehicle beyond safety regulations (headlights will be higher than normal blinding others in front and inability to see smaller cars in a blindspot). Under the reconstruction law presently, these are not allowed. If the reconstruction law is repealed, then those under the impression of a "free-for-all" will modify with no regard to the safety of others on the road.

To get a reconstruction permit, one only has to pay \$15 for the inspection pass or fail (with 90 days to fix whatever was failed) and can update or change modifications on the permit as needed free of charge.

Some will argue that those who process the reconstruction permits are not well educated in the field. The City & County Motor Vehicle Control who issue the reconstruction permits also manage and certify all the safety check stations and inspectors on the island of Oahu, therefore are well informed of what's required to pass. They were/are ASE certified and were previous safety check inspectors.

The recon station is fully booked into 1 month (they won't book anything past that) which also proves why the reconstruction law is still needed. Many people still want to modify their vehicles to a reasonable extent and need the reconstruction permit to be able to drive the vehicle legally.

I hope this testimony is taken into consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2021 11:06:21 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tim Reimer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The Oahu Reconstructed Car Inspection is a very complicated, time consuming and expensive issue for anyone needing to get one. Here's how it works...Step One: The office is located in Honolulu on Kapahulu Avenue and does not take appointments. This means you have to one, take the day off from work, and two if your car isn't licensed, you need to find a method of transporting it there. If you have a friend with a trailer that makes it easy but most of us don't have either.

Ok, option two, have your car transported on a car carrier or tow truck! Do you have an extra four to six hundred dollars for the tow? It might be more, depending on where you live. Once you have arrived, the car comes off the truck and is inspected by the Reconstruction Officials. Great if you pass but if you didn't, then you will be returning again, after taking the day off and paying tow charges.

Ok, great you passed, now the tow truck has to take your car to the scale if it was never registered before. The scale is located in the middle of town, so another tow charge to that area and the driver's waiting time. Again, the car comes off the tow truck and is driven onto the scale, the tow truck driver is very upset at all this waiting. After the vehicle is weighed, the tow truck heads to the Safety Inspection Station to inspect your vehicle, another tow, charged by the mile. The Inspector tells you to take the car down from the tow truck so he can inspect it, more lost time and not for free.

Now if you are lucky and your car passed these two inspections, which took most of the day and spent all of your savings, the car is towed home. But wait, you now have a reconstruction sticker but failed a safety inspection since you have no registration. Here you go again, take off from work, drive your legal car to the DMV or your unregistered car, taking a chance for a harsh ticket. You spend an hour or two at the DMV, now you have a reconstruction sticker, a registration and still have to complete your safety inspection since you now have your registration. The question is, do you drive your car back for safety inspection or tow it again? You know what most people will do! Ok, the second day is wasted, the safety inspector might or might not pass your car, if he does, great. If not, then it's home again to fix the failed issue(s).

The Reconstruction Law causes people to just give up on their dream cars and for those who have the time and money to waste on it, their vehicles will be on the road after years of building it. This Reconstruction Law has been a nightmare for all car enthusiasts and needs to be deleted now, unless the State will pay our lost wages, lost time and towing charges which I doubt. HB1651 needs to pass as soon as possible... it's time!

.....

Note: I, read a memo from your office, stating, non-reconstruction inspected vehicles may damage Hawaii roads, if the weight of the vehicles are changed . We aren't adding 20000 pounds to our cars, which could damage the roads, we aren't adding a bulldozer blade to the front of the car and a dirt tiller attached to the rear, That statement, is inaccurate and should be deleted. There's no difference of road damage between my Grandmothers station wagon or our project cars, since only the small area of tires will contact the road surface. His statement, is not relevant to this issue, since no other island uses the Reconstruction Stations , yes just Oahu uses it. Compare outer island road damage to Oahu road damage, non-Recon Inspected vehicles cause the same amount of road damage as a bicycle. This demand of Hawaii Auto Reconstruction, is a fine example of discrimination between the different islands. Oahu, is purely being discriminated against , by the Recon Requirements, no other island even uses this system , please delete it, so all of Hawaii's Auto Enthusiasts are treated equally . We, have waited too many years, please don't delay this issue for additional months or years . Aloha and thank you , Tim Reimer

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 11:44:19 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James A Hanson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Committee Members,

As a registered voter and automotive enthusiast, I am here today to submit my written support of Senate Bill SB 57 SD2 to repeal the requirement of the Secondary Vehicle Safety Inspection also known as the Recon Inspection of reconstructed and or modified vehicles. This secondary vehicle safety inspection is only required and performed in the City & County of Honolulu (CCHNL), at present time none of the other Counties in the State of Hawaii and no other state in the Union of the United States require or perform this type of inspections on reconstructed or modified automotive vehicles. As I recall in its original intent the secondary vehicle inspection was primarily checking the legality of items or components being replaced on motor vehicles, sales receipts of replaced components were required to present at the time of the inspection to insure items were not stolen. As of late this secondary vehicle safety inspection has evolved into an inspection to deem if the vehicle is safe and road worthy to operate on the streets and highway of the CCHNL which is not much different than the annual motor vehicle safety inspections that are performed on every vehicle that operate on the roads across the state. Each of the vehicle safety inspectors throughout the state are individuals that are required to take a test on a scheduled frequency for them to maintain their certification to perform these inspections. Question has been raised whether individuals that perform these secondary vehicle safety inspections are required to hold the same standards as those that perform our annual vehicle inspection. As you may have read the submitted testimony by the State Department of Transportation both this and last year, they are in support of this measure to repeal the need for the secondary vehicle safety inspection. They have also provided data that the fact that modified and or reconstructed vehicles are not the leading cause of motor vehicle accidents on the roads throughout the State of Hawaii. This year the Honolulu Police Department has submitted written testimony to the State Senate on SB 57 SD2 in support of the measure along with many other automotive enthusiasts that have submitted their written testimonies in support of this measure. I ask the committee to also support this measure, SB 57 SD2 that will repeal the need for this secondary vehicle safety inspection.

Aloha and mahalo,

James Hanson

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 12:42:05 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Larry Chun	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha House or Representatives,

I'm a registered voter and a car enthusiast here today to submit written in support of bill SB 57 to repeal the requirement of reconstructed vehicle inspections. Oahu is the only island and county in the US that has an antiquated and outdated law that requires a reconstructed vehicle to undergo another special inspection along with a safety check inspection before it is deemed safe for public roads and highways. I feel this unfairly targets us motorsports and car enthusiasts because it forces us to go through and pay for another unneeded vehicle inspection. The items covered during a reconstructed vehicle inspection are covered during the safety check inspection. It's a waste of tax payers money to run a vehicle inspection department when it's not needed and is being staffed by unqualified automotive inspectors who rely on outdated reconstructed vehicle rules. State government is supposed to run efficiently and save tax payer money. Having a reconstructed vehicle inspection office doing the same job being done by qualified automotive inspectors during safety check inspection is not efficient and a waste of tax payers money. None of the reconstructed vehicle inspectors currently are SAE certified and don't have the knowledge or experience to deem what parts or modifications on a reconstructed vehicle are safe or not. Also the current reconstructed vehicle law is antiquated and doesn't prove that by subjecting a vehicle thru this type of inspection will make it any safer for public highways and roads than just getting a safety. For those reasons I have listed above, I support bill SB 57 to repeal the need for a reconstructed vehicle inspection

Aloha and mahalo,

Larry Chun

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 1:07:00 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott-Michael Waracka	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair,

My testimony today is in support of the SB57. I find it funny that we have an additional inspection for modified vehicles on Oahu that is based on population? This does not seem to me based on safety but more of a money grab. The same vehicles requiring recon on Oahu do not require this inspection on any of the outer islands. The inspection of compliance of the safety check laws can be performed by a safety inspector. These safety inspectors go thru training and are more than qualified to perform these inspections. In my opinion the recon inspection is a redundant inspection and a waste of tax payer money. I humbly ask for your support in moving SB57 forward. Thank you for your time.

Thanks,

Scott-Michael Waracka

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 1:46:11 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jordan Deveraturda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support bill SB57 in the removal of Recon Inspection

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 2:07:41 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
stuart saito	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this measure

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 2:39:34 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elijah Kim	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the repeal of the requirement for reconstructed vehicles to obtain a special inspection and certification. It is redundant and a waste of resources.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 4:42:30 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wayne Miyashiro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill in its current form.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 6:44:04 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Xareth Ishihara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this bill

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 7:35:47 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ryan Willis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of SB57 to get rid of reconstructed vehicle inspections.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 7:36:47 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kanoe Willis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of SB57 to get rid of reconstructed vehicle inspections.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 9:12:30 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daniel Tangonan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Johanson and Vice Chair Kitagawa,

I am in SUPPORT of SB57.

HAR 134 (Reconstruction Permit) was last revised in 1986. Reconstruction inspections have been a problem for many in the automotive industry in Hawaii, from auto enthusiasts, and classic car builders to motorcycle riders and custom car builders.

It is basically a secondary vehicle inspection on top of the primary city safety check inspection for motor vehicles. **Reconstruction inspection was originally put into law to inspect vehicles for stolen parts.**

Over the years i have been to the recon inspection station numerous times for my own vehicles and to help others get a fair inspection. I can tell you first hand that the recon inspectors where not the most knowledgeable about vehicle modifications and the components that were modified. Over these years i had got to know Willie who was the supervisor at the time. When talking to the Willie about the qualifications that recon inspectors have he told me they have some basic knowledge of automotive components but no certifications in the field. Now, when we turn to the primary vehicle safety check inspections, we see that 99% of every auto repair shop that provides safety check inspections, are certified automotive technicians who have gone through ASE certification from the national institute for automotive excellence and safety. The clearer picture is that the safety inspection stations are more thorough and experienced on inspecting a vehicle to determine if it is of safe operating order to drive on public roadways. To date, there has been no proof or evidence on any accident occurring on Hawaii's public roads due solely to an unsafe modified vehicle. There os no Recon on the other islands other than Oahu. Those islands have had no problems whatsoever with modified vehicles getting inspections through safety check stations.

As of recently, the recon inspection station has reduced their operating hours from 12pm-3pm monday through Friday, Making it harder for people to get an inspection in a timely matter. We are talking about people who have jobs, who need to take off of work just to get a reconstruction inspection and hope they pass so they can get a safety check. Here's an example of the reconstruction permit process... when you put aftermarket wheels on your vehicle, you need to get a wheel alignment, then get a

temporary safety check, then go to get a recon inspection, then back to get the permanent safety check. This takes up a lot of time for people who would simply want to change their wheels. We could eliminate a whole step by just getting a safety check where they will do a thorough check of the safety of the vehicle with these new aftermarket wheels. Another issue is with many military personnel moving in and out of the islands, some bring their modified vehicles with them, it becomes a hassle for them to get their vehicle adjusted to Hawaii's recon specifications. Thus a lot of military vehicles being abandoned and left behind when getting deployed or when moving back out of state to get restationed.

Economically speaking, if recon is repealed, you will see less derelict and abandoned vehicles dumped on our streets. People will be able to finish their classic car project or fix their modified vehicle instead of having to trash it because they can't get a recon. You will also see a boost in the economy from automotive shops and consumers being able to modify vehicles without the hassle associated with getting a reconstruction permit. This is a trickle down effect for the auto industry in Hawaii. Consumers will buy from auto shops, shops will make or buy parts and accessories from the mainland, shipping companies will gain revenue for bringing them in to the islands, trucking companies will deliver cargo to shops, vehicles will get inspected at state safety inspection stations, vehicles stay on the road and pay yearly registration and taxes. This in turn will be a consistent and steady revenue stream for the state and less expenses with removing abandoned vehicles.

Thank you for your consideration!

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/23/2021 2:51:20 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rodd Shimamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha All,

I am sending a written testimony in support of bill SB57 SD2 HD1. I support this bill because I feel this bill is not needed for modified vehicles, anywhere. There has been so much more technology involved with vehicles, let alone modifying vehicles. There are specific builders out there who build vehicles to be safe, there are also books of engineering for building new frames and suspensions that are readily available, and affordable for anyone to purchase. We car enthusiasts build our own, and sometimes we hire professionals to build for us, regardless of who builds them, we build them safe. Why? Because we use it for daily use for our families, and for ourselves. Because of the family type culture and caring attitude we have here in Hawaii, there is absolutely no ways, or no evidence to show that modifying our vehicles played any role in any major accidents. We build it safe for our friends, family and neighbors. Please take note that the other isles don't have this specific rule, yet there still aren't major accidents stemming from miscalculations or unsafe building practices, and that will apply to Oahu as well. If this bill is passed, this will also help with what little stimulation we can get to our already weakened economy by spending money on parts, modifying stations, and stores. More people will become involved, and more will help spend money, ultimately returning back to the state. Please help us keep our dream and hobby alive and well.

Thank you.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/23/2021 3:21:32 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robb	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing here to support the bill to get rid of reconstruction permit. I did some what of a quick research on this subject and noticed that "recon" was created, merely to help track stolen vehicles. Any vehicles that were modified will need to get a recon permit so they can make sure all the VIN numbers on all the different parts of the vehicle match the registration. Throughout the years, recon has blown up into a safety permit, which doesn't make sense since we already have a safety check system. Why do we need two types of safety inspection? As a mechanic, I see all the modified vehicles and notice people who are modifying their vehicles are people who don't know how to work on their own vehicles, meaning, they have shops modify it for them. Because a shop is doing the work, it's their reputation on the line, so in other words, its being done in a safe manor, so safety is not an issue with modified vehicles. I'm in support of this bill because it's just redundant for the people to have to pay twice for something that's done yearly. HPD is in favor of keeping recon because it's another way for them to gain revenue with all the non-reconstructed vehicles that they give tickets for. If theres a solution, they should combine recon and safety inspection together to make it one flat fee and have the safety inspectors monitor the modified vehicles as well.

SB-57-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/23/2021 9:21:19 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/23/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dale Garaza	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support for bill SB57. A state without recon works for the others states