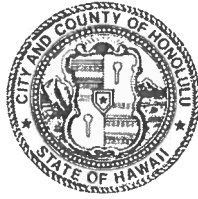


POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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



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DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE **WO-BL**

February 24, 2021

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
and Members
Committee on Commerce and Consumer
Protection
The Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Baker and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 615, S.D. 1, Relating to Rentals of Mopeds and Motor 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 Senate Bill No. 615, S.D. 1, Relating to Rentals of Mopeds and Motor Scooters, with concerns.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in addressing motorcycle safety has clearly stated that "the single most effective way for states to save lives and save money is a universal helmet law." The statistics supporting the lifesaving, injury mitigating, and reduced economic costs associated with helmet wearing are clear. In 2020, Oahu experienced 11 fatal and 14 critical motor vehicle collisions involving either motorcycles, mopeds, or bicycles. Of those 25 collisions, 23 of the victims were not wearing a helmet.

Mopeds and motor scooters are highly accessible to the younger segment of the population. Due to the low cost of renting a moped and/or motor scooter, it is also very attractive and sometimes the only alternative transportation for visitors to our islands. This combination of young and inexperienced operators and those unfamiliar with our

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
and Members
February 24, 2021
Page 2

roadways provide for a risky situation that is only amplified by the lack of required safety equipment.

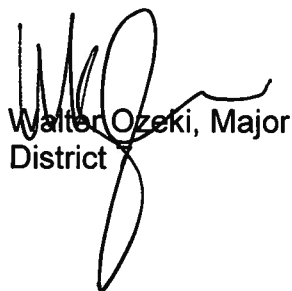
While the Honolulu Police Department supports the intent of the bill, there are specific areas of concern. This bill applies to only a specific segment of the riding public. It will require the wearing of a safety helmet only to renters or lessees of mopeds and motor scooters. Our concern is that rented or leased mopeds and motor scooters would have to be easily recognizable and distinguishable from one that is not being rented or leased in order for police to conduct a valid traffic stop to investigate the violation.

In addition, Section 8 prohibits the rental or leasing to another person a moped or motor scooter that has aftermarket modifications to the motor that increases the power capacity of the motor above two horsepower. It is unclear how or by whom this provision will be enforced as actual horsepower measures are never taken and specialized equipment would be required.

The Honolulu Police Department urges you to support Senate Bill No. 615, S.D. 1, Relating to Rentals of Moped and Motor Scooters, with the aforementioned concerns.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Walter Ozeki, Major
District

APPROVED:



Susan Ballard
Chief of Police

February 24, 2021

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

RE: SB615 SD1 Relating to Rentals of Mopeds and Motor Scooters. - **SUPPORT INTENT with AMENDMENT**

AAA Hawaii will **Support Intent with amendments** SB615 SD1. This bill requires operators who rent mopeds or scooters to wear helmets. It excludes motorcycle renters. We generally support universal helmet laws and consider its use to be an important and effective traffic safety counter measure in saving lives and preventing serious injuries. While SB 615 SD1 is a great start, we respectfully request the following amendments to ensure the law meets its intended objective.

Apply the law to all moped and motor scooter users. There is limited data to demonstrate moped and motor scooter renters are riskier operators than owners. In contrast, there was a 2014 Florida study of 5,660 moped and scooter crashes that found a greater proportion (55.7%) of severe injury crashes occurred among those who reported owning their vehicles. (Miggins, 2014)

We are also concerned singling out renters both limits the effectiveness of any helmet law in Hawaii and challenges law enforcement officials with the impossible task of having to recognize the difference between renters and owners. Both these issues can be addressed by making this helmet law applicable to everyone.

Require all motor scooter passengers wear helmets. Motor scooters can travel up to 40 mph in Hawaii. Bodies tossed from a moving vehicle at high speeds without protective headgear could be just as dangerous as a pedestrian being hit by a moving vehicle. Motor scooter operators and passengers are both equally at risk of serious injury or fatality in most collisions.

Unfortunately, helmet use is generally extremely low in Hawaii even though moped and scooter travels can be as dangerous as driving cars. Hawaii Department of Transportation's (HDOT) 2018 Highway Safety Plan found helmet use among moped riders was around 16% compared to 59% for motorcyclists in 2015. (HDOT, 2018) A undeniable fact is that unhelmeted riders have an increased chance of serious injuries and poorer hospital outcomes.

1130 N. Nimitz Highway, Suite A170, Honolulu, HI 96817

Auto Club Enterprises provides service to more than 14 million members



February 24, 2021

Page 2 of 2

AAA Hawaii strongly supports the Hawaii Strategic Highway Safety Plan's (2019-2024) recommendations for motorcycle, motor scooter and moped safety. This report calls for the implementation of a universal helmet law in Hawaii and policies that ensure for "clarity, consistency and efficiency" in regulating motorcycles, motor scooters and mopeds. SB615 SD1 should be amended to come closer to these recommendations.

AAA Hawaii was founded in 1915 in Honolulu and is a leader in motorist services and a strong advocate for traffic safety. With almost 170,000 members in Hawaii and 60 million nationwide, service to and the safety of our members, other motorists, and all road users is our founding and continuing purpose. Helmets alone cannot prevent traffic safety collisions, but they can act as the last line of defense for motor scooter and moped operators in preventing serious trauma. From seat belts to helmets, all road users need to stay ready for the dangers around them. We share Chair's effort to road safety and appreciate his legislative objective. AAA Hawaii is ready to fully support SB615 SD1 with these requested amendments.

Sincerely,

Liane Sumida

Liane Sumida
General Manager

References

Makesha Miggins, M. L. (2014). *Mopeds and Scooters: Crash Outcomes in a High Traffic State*. The Journal of Trauma: Injury, Infection, and Critical Care.
Hawaii Department of Transportation. (2018). *Hawaii 2018 Highway Safety Plan*. State of Hawaii.

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2021 11:11:36 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Hood	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support Lexi's Law SB615. Lexi is a part of our extended family and we hope this law passes to prevent tragedies such as Lexi's from happening again. Thank you!

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2021 11:35:37 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gary Busey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Gary Busey, on dec 4th 1988 I was on a Harley Davidson went around the corner and hit dust and gravel ad the motorcycle went down and I want over the handle bars and split my head open, I was not wearing a helmet. I landed in the feet of a police officer and he called paramedics that were one block away. They came very quickly and took me to Cedars Sianai in Los Angeles. I have a massive traumatic brain injury. called a sub dema hematoma, the surgery was successful and my life is very thankful. I realized at that time that the helmet law must be mandatory all over the world. I went to Washington dc and met wet senator Orin hatch, John McCain, Ted Kennedy Bill Frist and the volume of the other Senators. I express my experience to them and the language I used became the advocate language of the traumatic brain injury act which President Clinton signed into order in 1996. My purpose here to you in charge of laws in the great state of Hawaii is to pass the helmet law as a mandatory law for riding motorcycles, bicycles, skateboards, roller blades, mopeds, and scooters. This is very important for the riders and the families, Your head which sits on top of your neck is a computer and everything you do in life. In passing in this HELMET LAW you will be a Hero a motivator and a "safety champion" It is to be done for the safety of mankind and the human race. Pray about your decision and you will understand what a Humanatarian I have become, God Bless you all PASSING THE LAW

You will create a miracle and a blessing for everyone by passing the law. I say this by looking threw my spiritual eye and I believe and know that life is forever.

I support Lexis Law SB615

Gary Busey

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2021 11:41:50 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mckenzie Seagren	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is McKenzie Seagren and I totally support Lexis Law, all these people that die from head injuries should have not died if they wore a helmet, Lexi was full of life and did wonders for the community and it is just super sad she is no longer with us, I am 23 years young and I ask you to please enforce this law, it is imparitive.

Sincerely,

McKenzie Seagren

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2021 12:19:40 PM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
helene martin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly urge you to pass this bill. Not only will it save future lives, but it will also be honoring the beautiful life Of Lexi.

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2021 12:25:01 PM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peggy Seagren	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support Lexis Law SB615

It is such a crying shame to have her gone from a scooter accident and many other people that die in Hawaii all year due to No helmet law, I sincerely ask you to please Enforce this law due to all the accidents of fatalities in Hawaii.

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2021 12:51:07 PM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shawna Jefferson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My good friends Danielle & Tim Jenkins tragically lost their beautiful daughter Lexi in a moped accident in Maui on August 15, 2017. Unfortunately, she was not wearing a helmet that may have saved her life.

Please pass this very necessary law to protect the innocent and unskilled riders while on vacation in beautiful Hawaii. Thank you very much.

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2021 4:20:05 PM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Julie Gragg	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support Lexis Law SB615. Respectfully Julie Gragg

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 8:26:30 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Doreen Pine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support Lexi's Law SB615. I truly believe riders should wear helmets on moped and scooters. Please pass this law!

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 11:46:41 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mari Bindels	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support Lexi's law SB615.

My son just had a ski accident and airlifted to an emergency hospital. He was in ICU for three days. He wasn't wearing a helmet. I believe helmets are very important to protect from brain injuries. I live in California and have a helmet law for even riding a bicycle, can't believe that you can ride a moped without a helmet in Hawaii, it's not safe at all.

Thank you,

Mari Bindels

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 11:57:17 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Hill	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this SB615 as I have been to Maui several times and have seen to accidents.

I ride a Harley and I do wear my helmet all the time even is States wear it is not the law. Please pass this law to save lives. Thank you David Hill

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 2:57:13 PM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
randy simpson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello my name is Randy Simpson and I am asking you to please support SB824 / Lexi's Law. As a motorcycle rider for over 40 years I have buried to many friends and even family from motorcycle & moped accidents that they might have survived from had they simply been wearing a helmet. The 1st question most people ask when someone is involved in a motorcycle or a moped accident is "Were they wearing a helmet?"or..... "Isn't there some kind of helmet law there?"

That is what SB615 Lexi's Law is about...."Some kind of helmet law!" If you make an effort to protect the tourist, the young who are uninformed & the untrained, then we can certainly move the needle in a positive direction and save a few more lives. We can send a few more loved ones home to their families should they be in an unfortunate accident while in Hawaii.

Wearing a helmet was a habit ingrained in me from a very young age due to my parents insisting that I wear one. The outcome of that "Training & Education" was that even when I lived in states without a helmet law I still wore one. Even when it was not the "Cool Thing" to do when I rode in a crowd, I still did it out of habit because of what I learned at a younger age. I have had three major motorcycle accidents that I could not walk away from. But my mind is intact and I am still here all because I wore a helmet. Please do the right thing for those who do not know better, for those who need a little protection, for those who one day may graduate to riding motorcycles and wear a helmet out of habit due to SB615 regardless of the law requiring it or not on a motorcycle.

The motorcycle groups have no reason to oppose SB615 because it does not apply to them. They carry a motorcycle license and should have the training or experience that these tourist and young moped riders do not have. So Please....Help them Help themselves.....they need your help.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB615!

God Bless

Randy Simpson

Randy Simpson

702-218-3851

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 7:08:39 PM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support lexi's law sb615

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 7:28:31 PM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha from Jack Nordby,

As a 10 year resident of Maui County, and a lifelong motorcycle rider, I have personally observed many moped riders who I can be certain had little to none moped or motorcycle experience or skills. Far too many times these people are also not wearing helmets which in my opinion, could save their lives in the always unexpected changes that will take place when riding a motorized scooter . I cringe when I see them because it automatically reminds me of the tragic end that Alexis Jenkins met on what appeared to be a safe road in the Wailea area.

Because of my passion and pain of what happened to Alexis Jenkins, any law passed that would require helmets to inexperienced riders, that could and would prevent injuries and/or death from an accident, is so essential for those who want to enjoy Hawaii on a moped/scooter.

It is my personal desire and hope to see Lexi's Law Bill overwhelmingly passed to begin the process of protecting the lives of residents and visitors alike.

Thank you for hearing my voice on this matter. Please feel free to call me at 808 419-8184

Mahalo, Jack Nordby

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 6:41:30 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I fully support Lexi's Law SB615 and feel it is absolutely necessary for the safety and welfare of all persons concerned.

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 7:17:36 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I Tim Jenkins support Lexi's Law SB615 and implore Legislation to pass this Bill to save others, prevent head injuries and to spare others from witnessing these kind of images on Hawaii Roadways.

Novice moped/motor scooter riders, such as my daughter Alexis merit the requirement of a mandatory helmet law.

Lexi grew up water skiing, wakeboarding, snow skiing and snowboarding since she was around 5 years old. Lex was a First Degree Black Belt and going for her Second Degree Black Belt when she made the Varsity Golf Team, her Sophomore year in High School. She had to pick one and it was golf. We always were putting Alexis in lessons to advance her skills and the use of PPE was often mandatory for protection. Lexi later took up skydiving and had 16 solo jumps in, we have several pictures of her wearing a helmet. I wish I was there that day to protect her and was aware of the dangers of mopeds/scooters on the islands previously.

Thank you Legislation for your time, consideration and support!

Warmest Regards,

Timothy Jenkins

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 7:19:02 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brandon Trombino	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support lexis law sb615

thanks,

Brandon Trombino

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 7:41:38 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lisa hill	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I 100% support this bill to save lives and to prevent another family from going through what we have been through.No day has ever been the same since we lost our beloved and beautiful family member to a tragic accident while visiting Maui and no day ever will be the same. She is missed tremendously every day and always will be and I am a firm believer that had there been a measure in place such as this to protect the inexperienced moped/motorcycle riders that she may still be here with us. We believe that this Lexislaw808 being passes would save so many individuals from suffering this great unconsolable loss that our family has.

Lisa

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 7:46:20 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I Danielle Jenkins support Lexi's Law SB615 and want to take this opportunity, to thank those in Legislation for their ongoing support of Lexi's Law and commitment to saving others.

August 15, 2017 we received the worst phone call a parent could ever receive. That phone call that we all know could possibly happen, but we do everything in our power to prevent from the moment our child/children are born.

We only had one child ALEXIS PATRICE JENKINS, oh how we miss her every second of everyday. Our world stopped as I am sure you can imagine! Many dreams shattered and we live by the Motto: ONE BREATH AT A TIME, A DAY IS TOO LONG!

We have no choice but to move on and to try to make a positive out of a negative. Lexi's Law SB615 has the capability to do just that. Raising Awareness, saving lives, preventing head injuries, has been our objective and all of you have the ability to make SB615 a reality.

Respectfully,

Danielle Jenkins

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 7:50:48 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
MaryAnn Gillen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB615 for the safety of the people. Too

many lives are unnecessarily lost and in wearing a helmet could have given them a fighting chance.

MaryAnn Gillen

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 7:56:22 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
karen simpson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am respectfully requesting you pass SB615 Lexi's Law as my Husband was in a serious motorcycle accident a few years back and I am thankful he was wearing his helmet! The alternative is unimaginable and a helmet is a life saving measure.

Sincerely,

Karen Chastain Simpson

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 8:17:44 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maureen Campbell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I have three boys who grew up riding dirt bikes and we had quite a few accidents, including fractures. Fortunately due to wearing a helmet, we never had any concussions or head injuries while riding bikes. Helmets Protect our loved ones, Please pass SB615.

Mahalo,

Maureen Campbell

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 8:20:34 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patience Nason	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support Lexi's Law SB615! Thank you:)

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 8:38:58 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Corinna Cruz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support Lexi's Law SB615

Thanks,

Corinna

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 10:14:57 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Please pass this bill and save lives. No family should ever have to experience losing someone because of a law not in place.

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 10:11:06 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Please pass this bill. I would never wish what our family went through on anyone.

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 10:07:36 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Save lives. Pass this bill. There is no reason this bill shouldn't be passed.

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2021 10:01:42 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

There is absolutely no question about whether or not this bill should be passed. I support this bill wholeheartedly.

LATE

SB-615-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2021 3:32:37 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/24/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Crean	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass SB615 (Lexi's Law) into law! I support SB615

I have been an avid bicyclist for decades, I'm basically a pro-cyclist at this point in my life and even though my bicycle goes nowhere near the speed of a moped, I always wear my helmet because it's highly dangerous to be on the road without one. Now, take a bunch of tourists who may not even have the decades of cycling experience that I have, and put them on the road with a fast moped; this is a recipe for disaster to happen! You need look no further than what happened to Alexis Jenkins for the proof. Perhaps she would be alive today if there was a helmet law to protect her. Please make SB615 a law!

Thank you,

Richard Crean

212-444-2226