

# DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

REIKO MATSUYAMA, DIRECTOR

MICHELLE L. LIZAMA, DEPUTY DIRECTOR



DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR  
MICHAEL A. DAHLIG, MANAGING DIRECTOR

## Testimony of Reiko Matsuyama Director of Finance, County of Kaua'i

Before the  
**Committee on Transportation**  
February 9, 2022 at 10:00 am  
Conference Room 423, Via Videoconference

In consideration of  
**House Bill 1411**  
**Relating to the Registration of Vehicles**

Honorable Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Ilagan, and Members of the Committee:

The Finance Department of the County of Kaua'i **supports** HB 1411, which requires both the transferor and transferee of a vehicle to sign and attest to correct information to execute a vehicle transfer. Currently our county receives a number of fraudulent or erroneous notice of transfer forms. This prevents us from keeping current and accurate records of registered owners which is one of the primary issues contributing to the abandoned vehicle problems on our island.

We believe this legislation will reduce the amount of fraud committed in the vehicle transfer process. We receive many Notice of Transfer slips through our drop box and mail which many times are not legible. There is no way to verify someone's identity. Our Kaua'i Police Department has done research on how the problem is handled throughout the nation and this is a step in the right direction to assure that we are processing title transfers with accurate information on registered owners.

It is for these reasons we **support** HB 1411. Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.



Committee on Transportation

Rep. Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair

Rep. Greggor Ilagan, Vice Chair

Rep. Linda Clark

Rep. Nadine K. Nakamura

Rep. Troy N. Hashimoto

Rep. Roy M. Takumi

Rep. Lisa Kitagawa

Rep. Lauren Matsumoto

Rep. Matthew S. LoPresti

Testimony of Hawaii County of Mayors

on

H.B. 1411

Relating to Registration of Vehicles

Motor Vehicles; Vehicle Registration; Transfer of Title; Attestation; Penalty

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

10:00 A.M.

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

ROOM 423

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

The Hawaii County of Mayors supports H. B. 1411, which requires that both the transferee's and transferor's address be provided on the certificate of ownership when the title to a motor vehicle is transferred. The Bill specifies that providing false or fraudulent information subjects a party to penalties.

HCOM further supports this legislation in recognition that more than eight thousand vehicles are abandoned in Hawaii every year. In 2019, four thousand seven hundred abandoned vehicles were reported on Oahu, one thousand six hundred twenty abandoned vehicles were reported on Maui, one thousand six hundred twenty abandoned vehicles were reported on Hawaii Island, and nine hundred abandoned vehicles were reported on Kauai. These abandoned vehicles are an eyesore in communities, harmful to the environment, and a financial burden to the counties. Because of fraud occurring at the vehicle title transfer level, there is an ongoing issue with locating the proper owner that has been abandoned.

The Hawaii Council of Mayors urge your support with our efforts to keep our public and environment safe and healthy.

Hawaii Council of Mayors:

Derek Kawakami, Mayor, Kauai County

Rick Blangiardi, Mayor, City County of Honolulu

Mitch Roth, Mayor, Hawaii County

Michael P. Victorino, Maui County of Maui

Contact: Michael P. Victorino, HCOM President  
808-270-7855

February 8, 2022

**COUNTY COUNCIL**

Arryl Kaneshiro, Chair  
Mason K. Chock, Vice Chair  
Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.  
Felicia Cowden  
Bill DeCosta  
Luke A. Evslin  
KipuKai Kualii



**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK**

Jade K. Fountain-Tanigawa, County Clerk  
Scott K. Sato, Deputy County Clerk

Telephone: (808) 241-4188  
Facsimile: (808) 241-6349  
E-mail: cokcouncil@kauai.gov

**Council Services Division**  
4396 Rice Street, Suite 209  
Lihu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i 96766

February 8, 2022

**TESTIMONY OF FELICIA COWDEN  
COUNCIL VICE CHAIR, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL  
ON  
HB 1411, RELATING TO REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES  
House Committee on Transportation  
Wednesday, February 9, 2022  
10:00 a.m.  
Via Videoconference  
Conference Room 423**

Dear Chair Aquino and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 1411, Relating to Registration of Vehicles. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a Member of the Kaua'i County Council.

The proposed improvements for tracking motor vehicle transfer of ownership will assist the County of Kaua'i in reducing the increasing number of abandoned vehicles by accurately holding the vehicle owners accountable.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188 or via E-mail to cokcouncil@kauai.gov.

Sincerely,

FELICIA COWDEN  
Councilmember, Kaua'i County Council

AMK:ss

**COUNTY COUNCIL**

Arryl Kaneshiro, Chair  
Mason K. Chock, Vice Chair  
Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.  
Felicia Cowden  
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Luke A. Evslin  
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Lihu'e, Kaua'i, Hawaii 96766

February 8, 2022

**TESTIMONY OF MASON K. CHOCK**  
**COUNCIL VICE CHAIR, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**ON**  
**HB 1411, RELATING TO REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES**  
House Committee on Transportation  
Wednesday, February 9, 2022  
10:00 a.m.  
Via Videoconference  
Conference Room 423

Dear Chair Aquino and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 1411, Relating to Registration of Vehicles. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as Council Vice Chair of the Kaua'i County Council.

I wholeheartedly support the intent of HB 1411 to assist in addressing the issues surrounding abandoned vehicles in our communities. Requiring both seller and buyer have responsibility with completing the motor vehicle transfer of ownership will assist the County of Kaua'i in reducing the increasing number of abandoned vehicles by accurately holding the vehicle owners accountable.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188 or via E-mail to cokcouncil@kauai.gov.

Sincerely,

**MASON K. CHOCK**  
Council Vice Chair, Kaua'i County Council

AMK:ss

## ilagan2 - Nicole

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**From:** Rep. Greggor Ilagan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 10:58 AM  
**To:** ilagan2 - Nicole  
**Subject:** FW: Urgent: Testimony Needed Today

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**From:** Sacred Heart Church Pahoā <shpahoā@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 8:19 AM  
**To:** Greggor Ilagan <aloha@repilagan.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Urgent: Testimony Needed Today

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Good Morning Greggor,

Yes, I agree to the proposals of HB1403, HB1485, HB1411. Highway 130 is in great need of an alternate route and a better system to keep litter off of the highway. And, I believe that those signatures will help make transferring of ownership of vehicles transactions move forward smoothly.

Bernice K. Walker

On Mon, Feb 7, 2022 at 11:40 AM Greggor Ilagan <[aloha@repilagan.com](mailto:aloha@repilagan.com)> wrote:



*February 7, 2022*

**Aloha Bernice,**

We need your testimony for HB1403, HB1485, HB1411, now. Please submit it by 10:00AM, Tuesday, February 8, 2022, however, Late testimony will be accepted until committee votes.

Transportation Committee on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 10:00AM: Urgent your testimony is needed. On-Time Testimony due by 10:00am February 8, 2022

- **HB1403:** Relating to an Alternate Route Site Selection Survey in Puna: Requires the Department of Transportation, in collaboration with the county of Hawaii, to conduct site surveys on the island of Hawaii to identify the most suitable location for an alternate route in Puna below Highway 130. Appropriates funds.
- **HB1485:** Relating To Litter Control: Requires the Department of Transportation to amend the Adopt-a-Highway program to reduce the minimum number of years a program participant must agree to clean up litter on a highway

**HB-1411**

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 3:17:42 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/9/2022 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Todd Reilly Sr	Nanawale BOD	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

This is one necessary step to deal with the abandoned vehicle emergency in Hawaii.

Please help us and support this.

Mahalo

Todd Reilly Sr

Nanawale BOD

**HB-1411**

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 4:16:55 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/9/2022 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Daniel Levy	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

It's already complex enough

HB 1411

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB 1411. This bill would require the address of both the transferee as well as the transferor on certificate of ownership to a motor vehicle. The additional information that would be collected if this bill passes would assist the local police with identifying the owner of vehicles that are abandoned. On the Big Island of Hawaii, there is an almost unbelievable number of vehicles that are left along the side of the road. When asked about this problem, local law enforcement officers have identified being able to trace the ownership of these vehicles as one of the primary problems they face when dealing with abandoned vehicles. Let's give the police the support that they need to address this growing problem by collecting the additional information needed.

Please support the passage of HB 1411. It gives the police departments of our state the help they need with reducing the number of vehicles left along the side of the road. Mahalo for your consideration.

Barbara Cigainero

Keaau, HI 96749



Testimony in support of HB1411 additional address on car title transfer

Mr. Chairman and Members:

I'm writing in support of HB1411, which requires both the seller and buyers address to be noted on a car transfer of title. We have so many abandoned cars in our area of the state that anything that can help reduce the number of them should be explored. This will help make it clear who the car actually belongs to and who is actually responsible for it. I commend Rep. Ilagan for his efforts to address a neighborhood problem.

Mahalo,

Renee Rabb

Keaau, HI 96749

**HB-1411**

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 7:48:34 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/9/2022 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Julia Lindbergh	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB 1411 developed by Representative Greggor Ilagan.

Thank you

Julia Lindbergh

**HB-1411**

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 7:56:09 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/9/2022 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Allen Bartolome	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill

## ilagan2 - Nicole

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**From:** Rep. Greggor Ilagan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 10:57 AM  
**To:** ilagan2 - Nicole  
**Subject:** FW: Urgent: Testimony Needed Today

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**From:** jim lee <jimleew@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 9:37 AM  
**To:** Greggor Ilagan <aloha@repilagan.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Urgent: Testimony Needed Today

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Greggor:

Hope my testimonies will satisfied the needs of government interests.

Best wishes my friend,  
Jim

Ps: Keep up the good job!

On Tue, Feb 8, 2022, 9:33 AM jim lee <[jimleew@gmail.com](mailto:jimleew@gmail.com)> wrote:

HB 1411 Transferring:

Absolutely necessary requirement for vehicle ownership to fill out the proper ownership document of Sale or Transfer. There are many many Banned vehicle along the Hwy and in bushes & forest hidden. Patrol Police Officials can quickly access the owner's info and have it Tow Away under his or her expense. I think this a MUST do procedure if not tons of banned vehicles will be All over the place making our neighbor looking like a Homeless Shelter. They can make a home in Van, SUV, Station Wagon n live comfortably with Free Rent.

On Tue, Feb 8, 2022, 9:23 AM jim lee <[jimleew@gmail.com](mailto:jimleew@gmail.com)> wrote:

HB 1485 Highway Litter:

Is not acceptable to all drivers. Trash on Hwy 130 or anywhere is unsafe, unsanitary and not an acceptable public behavior. All parents should make this a clear demanding statement to all their kids. DOT should create Large Green HWY Sign posted warning drivers that Littering is Unlawful and Unsafe. "A Large Fine is Unforced".

On Tue, Feb 8, 2022, 9:15 AM jim lee <[jimleew@gmail.com](mailto:jimleew@gmail.com)> wrote:

HB 1403 Testimony:

In my opinion an alternative route in case of any emergency is essential for public safety n convenience to Hilo. Currently for example, if HPP have a forest fire many residents will died due to the traffic congestion that will occur. Railroad Road was suggested many years ago and I think it's probable the best road leading to town.

**HB-1411**

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 10:45:14 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/9/2022 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Ramzi Mansour	Hawai'i County Dept. of Environmental Management	Support	No

Comments:

February 8, 2022

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Ilagan, and members of the Committee on Transportation:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 1411. The County of Hawai'i Department of Environmental Management supports the intent of this bill to improve accountability for ownership and proper disposal of vehicles.

Sincerely,

Ramzi Mansour, Director of Environmental Management

**HB-1411**

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 12:47:45 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/9/2022 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Ralph Boyea	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Aquino and members of the Transportation Committee,

I am writing in full **SUPPORT** of HB 1411.

Maintaining an accurate record of vehicle ownership is a necessary first step in dealing with the abandoned vehicle problem.

Please vote in favor of HB 1411.

**HB-1411**

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 2:22:44 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/9/2022 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Cyd L. Hoffeld	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Ilagan and Members of the Transportation Committee,

My name is Cyd L. Hoffeld and I am a resident of Kalapana on Hawai'i Island. I am testifying in **strong support** of **HB1411** because I believe that it will minimize car thefts and the sale of stolen vehicles on our island that are happening at alarming rates.

Mahalo.