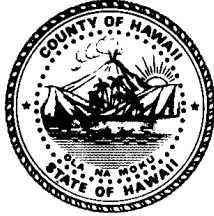


HEATHER L. KIMBALL

Council Member

*Chair, Committee on Governmental Operations,
Relations and Economic Development
Council District 1*



Contact Information

(808) 961-8828

(808) 961-8018 (staff)

heather.kimball@hawaiicounty.gov

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

*County of Hawai'i
Hawai'i County Building
25 Aupuni Street, Suite 1402
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720*

TO: Honorable Representative Aquino, Chair
House Committee on Transportation

FROM: Heather L. Kimball
Council Member, District 1

DATE: February 1, 2022

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT HB 1412, Abandoned Vehicles Distance Requirement**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to require the counties to provide a minimum distance a vehicle must be moved within a specified timeframe after a vehicle is initially inspected for abandonment to avoid an official classification of abandonment.

I **SUPPORT** this measure for the following reasons:

1. Abandoned vehicles are a significant public and environmental health and safety concern in Hawai'i County.
2. In order to address the blight of abandoned vehicles in Hawai'i County we need a combination of improved legal enforcement mechanisms and financial resources.
3. This legislation will provide more clarity with respect to when a vehicle can be classified as being abandoned by ensuring that notice is provided that the vehicle must be moved the specified distance within the specified timeframe or be subject to removal.

For these reasons, I ask for your **SUPPORT** of HB 1412.

Sincerely,

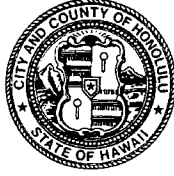
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather Kimball".

Heather Kimball

Hawai'i County Council Member

DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
MISSION MEMORIAL BUILDING
550 SOUTH KING STREET, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 768-3391 FAX: (808) 768-1591
<http://www.honolulu.gov>

RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR



KIMBERLY M. HASHIRO
ACTING DIRECTOR

February 9, 2022

The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair
The Honorable Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair
And Members of the Committee on Consumer
Protection and Commerce
State Capitol, Room 436
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair Lisa Kitagawa, and Members of the
Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce,

SUBJECT: H.B. 1412 HD1 - Relating to Abandoned Vehicles

The City and County of Honolulu, Department of Customer Services (CSD), Motor
Vehicles, Licensing and Permitting (MVLP) Division, strongly supports H.B. 1412 HD1
Relating to Abandoned Vehicles which requires a minimum distance a vehicle must move
within a specific timeframe.

CSD MVLP handles all the requests and inquiries for abandoned vehicles on the
Island of Oahu. We are responsible for the towing of all abandoned and derelict vehicle
from the roadways. We are committed to making our roadway safe for all of our
communities.

This measure would require that Counties would provide a minimum distance and a
timeframe which a vehicle must be moved after the initial inspection in order to not be
classified as being abandoned and subject to removal as an abandoned vehicle.

We urge the Committee to pass H.B. 1412 HD1. Thank you for the opportunity to
testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kimberly M. Hashiro".

Kimberly M. Hashiro
Acting Director

Patti Cook

Box 6960, Kamuela, HI 96743
(808) 937-2833 – cookshi@aol.com

February 1, 2022

**TO: Hawai'i State House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair
Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair
Committee Members**

RE: Hearing @ 2PM, Thurs., Feb. 10, 2022

HB 1412 & HB 1413 – SUPPORT

Thank you for holding this hearing to discuss these two bills to address the alarming increase in abandoned vehicles across the state. The bills would help close loopholes in existing laws and give the counties and their respective employees the tools needed to hold owners of abandoned vehicles accountable for disposal.

Please do all you can to expedite these bills to ensure passage this session.

Mahalo for your time and for listening to community concerns.

Patti Cook

HB-1412-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 2:46:48 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/10/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Stephanie Bath	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Yes to this bill

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 9, 2022

TESTIMONY OF MASON K. CHOCK
COUNCIL VICE CHAIR, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL
ON
HB 1412, HD1, RELATING TO ABANDONED VEHICLES
House Committee on consumer Protection & Commerce
Thursday, February 10, 2022
2:00 p.m.
Via Videoconference
Conference Room 329

Dear Chair Johanson and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 1412, HD1, Relating to Abandoned Vehicles. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as Council Vice Chair of the Kaua'i County Council and as a member of the County's Abandoned Vehicle Task Force.

I wholeheartedly support the intent of HB 1412, HD1, to address the problem of abandoned vehicles in our communities. Abandoned vehicles are a public eyesore for the affected communities and pose environmental issues creating unsafe conditions for Hawai'i residents. Additionally, abandoned vehicles pose a financial burden to the State and counties as it relates to the disposal costs and outstanding fines.

HB 1412, HD1, would better define the minimum distance that a vehicle must be moved within a specified amount of time to not be considered abandoned, with the distance specification determined by each county. HB 1412, HD1, will help to address the issues with abandoned vehicles and includes each county's input, which reflects a conscious effort by stakeholders representing each island.

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

HB-1412-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 3:34:24 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/10/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kimeona Kane	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Kimeona Kane, born and raised in Waimānalo and in support of this attempt to rid our communities of potentially dumped derelict vehicles. In our community alone, we see this regularly, and while I would not want to delay the process of getting vehicles removed, I respect the intent of trying to engage the owner before removal. I do hope that the distance and the time frame allowed is sufficient enough to ensure active status of the vehicle while not just moving the problem around with no action. The types of vehicles that are left abandoned really impact the community, creates potential safety concerns and welcomes other poor decisions.

Mahalo for your time,
Kimeona Kane

LATE

HB-1412-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2022 9:00:14 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/10/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Tamara Farnsworth	County of Maui Department of Environmental Management	Support	No

Comments:

We are writing in SUPPORT of HB 1412

This bill will help counties to address vehicles in instances where non-operational vehicles are being pushed or towed short distances in order to avoid removal by the county. The bill will allow counties to designate the distances that are appropriate for each of their geographic and population densities, as well as to develop our own methods of accounting for those distances. Rural areas may need a greater allowance of distance than islands that are more urban or densely populated. Overall, this bill will allow counties to address certain abandoned and derelict vehicles with more efficiency and timeliness. We do think the problem is significant enough to warrant new legislation.

Therefore, we urge this committee to pass this bill in order to strengthen HRS Ch. 290 to allow the counties to determine best practices for vehicles that are clearly abandoned or derelict, but being tampered with by those who would circumvent the law.

For reference, I serve as the County of Maui Division Manager for Environmental Protection & Sustainability, where the Abandoned Vehicles Program is housed.

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



LATE

Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Rep. Aaron Ling Johnson, Chair

Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

Rep. Henry J. C. Aquino Rep. Dee Morikawa
Rep. Sharon E. Har Rep. Richard H. K. Onishi
Rep. Mark J. Hashem Rep. David A. Tarnas
Rep. Sam Satoru Kong Rep. Lauren Matsumoto
Rep. John M. Mizuno

Testimony of Hawaii Council of Mayors

on

H.B. 1412

Relating to Abandoned Vehicles

Abandoned Vehicles; Distance Requirement; Counties

Wednesday, February 10, 2022

2:00 P.M.

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

ROOM 329

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

The Hawaii Council of Mayors supports H. B. 1412, which requires the counties to provide a minimum distance a vehicle must be moved within a specified timeframe after a vehicle is initially inspected for abandonment to avoid an official classification of abandonment.

We urge the legislature to support the counties in which the vehicle is located to establish an ordinance to define abandonment in accordance with distance requirements and specified timeframe.

Abandoned vehicles on public streets create widespread environmental issues as well as unsafe and unhealthy conditions for Hawaii residents. The existing law create problems with a loophole that it may be deemed abandoned but no longer classified as abandoned if it moves an inch or two from the location where it was noticed abandoned.

The Hawaii Council of Mayors urge your support with our efforts to keep our environments safe and healthy. Thank you.

Hawaii Council County of Mayors

Derek Kawakami, Mayor, Kauai County

Rick Blangiardi, Mayor, City and County of Honolulu

Mitch Roth, Mayor, Mayor, Hawaii County

Michael P. Victorino, HCOM President, 808-270-7855)

HCOM President, Michael P. Victorino (808-270-7855)

February 10, 2022

Mitchell D. Roth
Mayor



Ramzi I. Mansour
Director

Lee Lord
Managing Director

Brenda Iokepa-Moses
Deputy Director

County of Hawai'i

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

345 Kekūanāo'a Street, Suite 41 · Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 · cohdem@hawaiicounty.gov

Ph: (808) 961-8083 · Fax: (808) 961-8086

February 10, 2022

Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair, and
Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce,

LATE

Chair Johanson and Committee Members,

The County of Hawai'i Department of Environmental Management supports **HB 1412, HD1**, which allows the counties to remove existing ambiguity in the statute, which can impede the enforceability of towing laws.

Abandoned vehicles are a challenge in all counties and I appreciate this effort to provide clarity for the ultimate goal of a clean, safe, and healthy island environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brenda I. Iokepa-Moses".

Brenda Iokepa-Moses
Deputy Director

LATE

HB-1412-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2022 12:21:17 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/10/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Todd Reilly Sr	Nanawale BOD	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha

We consider this measure to be essential to end the tsunami of abandoned vehicles taking over our neighborhood. Thank you for your support of this measure and our community.

Mahalo

Todd Reilly Sr

Nanawale BOD

LATE

HB-1412-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2022 5:30:33 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/10/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ben L.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

abandoned vehicles litter our neighborhoods, businesses, parks and roadways. a tourist on reddit even noticed the problem. please pass these bills to help clean up our state!

https://www.reddit.com/r/BigIsland/comments/sgokgi/what_in_the_hell_is_up_with_your_guys_driving/

Posted by u/surfANDmusic

11 days ago

What in the hell is up with your guy's driving?

I visited the big island recently and I've never seen so many accident and cars flipped over on the side of the road in my life. And I'm from LA!!! I've never seen so many gravestone/memorials on the side of the road either

LATE

HB-1412-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2022 8:02:44 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/10/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Becky Jones	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This bill is too vague. Abandoned vehicles are a tremendous problem on the Big Island and this bill looks to make it even more difficult, cumbersome and costly to remove such vehicles. Please make the necessary changes to this bill in order for it to hit the mark that was intended. We need legislation that accomplishes its goal without additional labor and expense on the part of government.

LATE

HB-1412-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2022 8:04:34 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/10/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Barbara Cigainero	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair and Committee Members: I am writing to ask your support of HB 1412. I live in the Puna Region of the Big Island. Abandoned vehicles have become a significant source of blight in our area. The current statute's wording inadvertently provides a loop hole in that if the abandoned vehicle is moved only a few feet, that seems to satisfy the current law and leaves the police department with their hands tied. Please close this unintended loop hole by supporting HB 1412. Mahalo. Barbara Cigainero, Keaau, HI 96749

HB-1412-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2022 9:17:50 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/10/2022 2:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
P Hauoli'ipo Wright	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I believe this is a reasonable requirement, especially if the owner is away or immediately unavailable and is unaware of the issue. However, I would add the "notice be provided" part of this specify that this notice be mailed to the owner of the vehicle; in case the vehicle was stolen and he or she is unaware of it's location. This mailed notification with a specified completion date would allow him or her (or a contact) to go get the vehicle or fulfill the obligation before the vehicle is officially deemed abandon.

LATE

Subject: Re: Abandoned Vehicles Testimony

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I totally support the bills that representative Ilagan is proposing. Abandoned vehicles are a problem especially in rural subdivisions and we have issues with repeat offenders who have junk yards and are doing business selling auto parts. Anything that you can do to make it more difficult or expensive to these criminals would be greatly appreciated. We don't have the funds or man-power to patrol the streets . Thank you so much for your help

Judith Haney

LATE

I don't have time to log on right now but here's my testimony you can copy and paste or do whatever with

Re: abandoned vehicles, this is a huge problem in Puna district where I live and work. I think there's a few related issues.

One if car theft, which is also a huge problem here. We need a task force with the police to go after car thieves and not brush it off

bc alot of the junk cars are stolen, torn apart (thieves take what they want) then they dump the rest of the car.

Another issue is making sure who actually owns it and giving fines to the proper person who dumped the vehicle,

If someone got their car stolen then ripped and dumped, then the owner shouldnt' be liable, the thief should be,

we need a system to make sure the criminal gets the fine/punishment not the victim of the crime.

another issue is poor people who have cars they cannot afford to repair just abandon them bc they also don't have \$500 to get it towed,

to this end, we need a local recycling plant that can recylce old cars and pick them up

that's what I see as solutions,

thanks,

Rebecca Corby

Rebecca Corby, Principal Broker- RB #23646

Turquoise Hawaii Real Estate- RB#23647

808-354-9303 RebeccaCorby@gmail.com

www.TurquoiseHawaii.com

LATE

Peter Pauiole

What do we need to do to get rid of those abandoned vehicles? There's so much. Who ever owned the car last should be charged.

Right now I have 4 abandoned vehicles on my street. It is an eye sore. I used to take care of cutting the grass by myself but now I can't because of the vehicles. I like it when it's clean.

I hope that they can find a way to clean it. I know the persons who abandon it but when I said something to them, they say it's not their car. It's their responsibility. My last vehicle I sold, I took them to the DMV and made sure it was turned over to them at the DMV.

I support HB 1412, HB 1413, HB 1414

HB-1412-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2022 11:53:25 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/10/2022 2:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Brian F Jordan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This is a common sense Bill for a problem which is prvealent and getting worse.. Please paas this Bill

LATE

HB-1412-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2022 12:29:51 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/10/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Judith Ann Tang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I live in Pahoia, Hawaii. I get so frustrated driving in my neighborhood and seeing junk cars at the side of the road. It is awful. Property value is tumbling because who would want to live by a dumping ground. The town hall meetings were so helpful in knowing something is being done about it. There has to be some alternative to get these cars out of the neighborhoods. Please pass this bill to help Hawaii find an answer in dealing with all the abandoned cars. I don't want my neighborhood to look like Tiajana.

LATE

HB-1412-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2022 1:42:37 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/10/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Julia Lindbergh	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am IN favor of HB 1412 that representative Ilagan has brought forward.

Thank you very much

Julia Lindbergh

LATE

HB-1412-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2022 1:54:11 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/10/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
David Boulais	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill.