



LATE

THE SENATE
THE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Notice of Hearing

Testimony of Hawaii Council of Mayors
on
HB 1414, HD1
Relating to Abandoned Vehicles; Repeat Offenders; Penalties
Tuesday, April 5, 2022
10:05 a.m.
Conference Room 211
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

The Hawaii Council of Mayors supports H. B. 1414. The legislation of Bill 1414 makes a person who is a registered owner of a vehicle that has deemed abandoned or derelict to a tiered fine system. Supporting this bill provides a venue to deter and curtail individuals from abandoning their vehicles by expanding penalties for those who have multiple abandoned vehicles.

Too often the counties are inundated with complaints about derelict vehicles. The counties are burdened with fronting the cost of towing and disposition of said vehicles with no means to recoup the high cost of towing and disposing of the vehicles.

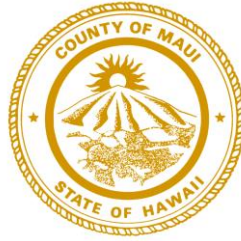
We ask the legislature to support this bill as a venue to help the counties keep our roadways and environment and roadways clean, healthy and safe.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and we ask for your support to address all matters relating to abandoned vehicles.

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, Mayor, Maui County

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

MICHAEL P. VICTORINO
Mayor
ERIC A. NAKAGAWA, P.E.
Director
SHAYNE R. AGAWA, P.E.
Deputy Director
MICHAEL KEHANO, P.E.
Solid Waste Division
SCOTT R. ROLLINS, P.E.
Wastewater Reclamation Division
TAMARA L. FARNSWORTH
Environmental Protection &
Sustainability Division



**COUNTY OF MAUI
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

2145 KAOHU STREET, SUITE 102
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793

April 4, 2022

TESTIMONY OF TAMARA L. FARNSWORTH
COUNTY OF MAUI, MANAGER OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION & SUSTAINABILITY
DIVISION

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS
AND MEANS

Tuesday, April 5, 2022, 10:05 a.m.
Via Videoconference

In consideration of **HOUSE BILL 1414 HD 1 RELATING TO ABANDONED VEHICLES**

Honorable Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Honorable Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair
Honorable Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Committee on Judiciary
Honorable Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

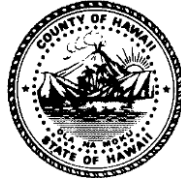
The County of Maui Department of Environmental Management stands in **SUPPORT of HB 1414 HD 1** which makes a person who is the registered owner of a vehicle that was deemed abandoned or derelict subject to a tiered fine system.

We support this bill because it will serve to hold responsible those who repeatedly abandon vehicles. In our experience, there appears to be a certain demographic of people who chronically dump vehicles. One group or type of perpetrator includes amateur or independent mechanics who acquire vehicles for parts; these vehicles are then abandoned once useful parts are removed. We hope that taking a stronger stance and holding them more accountable will deter them from this activity, and thereby decrease the number of vehicles that require response.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony **in support of HB 1414 HD 1.**

Mitchell D. Roth
Mayor

Lee Lord
Managing Director



Ramzi I. Mansour
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@hawaiiicounty.gov

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

April 4, 2022

Sen. Karl Rhoads, Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Chair Rhoads, Chair Dela Cruz, and Committee Members,

The County of Hawai'i Department of Environmental Management **supports HB 1414, HD1**, which provides for increased penalties for repeat offenders of abandoned vehicles. To encourage compliance, the cost of polluting the 'āina by abandoning a vehicle must be much higher than the cost of proper and responsible disposal.

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, appearing to read "Ramzi Mansour".

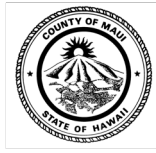
Ramzi Mansour
Director

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Gabe Johnson
Kelly Takaya King
Michael J. Molina
Tamara Paltin
Shane M. Sinenci
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

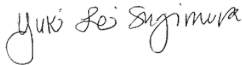
April 5, 2022

Director of Council Services
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

LATE

TO: Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: 
Yuki Lei Sugimura
Councilmember

DATE: April 4, 2022

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT FOR HB 1414, RELATING TO ABANDONED VEHICLES**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to fine registered owners of vehicles deemed abandoned or derelict.

I SUPPORT this measure as a means to address the growing number of abandoned vehicles in Hawaii. Large numbers of abandoned vehicles create severe environmental hazards, are an eyesore in our communities, and put a large financial burden on the counties. HB 1414 helps deter the act by expanding the penalties for those who have multiple abandoned vehicles.

For the foregoing reasons, I SUPPORT this measure.



Testimony of the

Hawai'i State Association of Counties

on

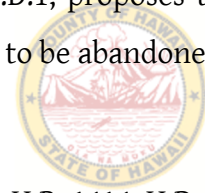
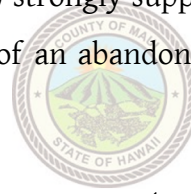
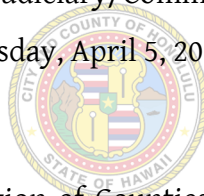
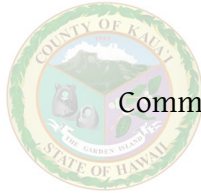
H.B. No. 1414, H.D.1

Relating to Abandoned Vehicles.

Committee on Judiciary/Committee on Ways and Means

Tuesday, April 5, 2022, 10:05 a.m.

LATE



The Hawai'i State Association of Counties (HSAC) strongly supports H.B. 1414, H.D.1, which makes the person, who is the registered owner of an abandoned or derelict vehicle subject to fines.

Abandoned and derelict vehicles are a widespread problem on our streets, creating concerns for public health and safety. Contributing to this problem is the ease of abandoning vehicles and the lack of deterrents for the abandonment of vehicles. H.B. 1414, H.D.1, proposes to remedy this problem by subjecting the owner of a vehicle that is determined to be abandoned or derelict to a tiered system of fines.

For these reasons the Hawai'i State Association of Counties strongly supports H.B. 1414, H.D.1, and requests your favorable consideration of this measure.

HB-1414-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2022 3:38:57 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/5/2022 10:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ralph Boyea	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Roods and Judiciary Committee members,

and, Chair DelaCruz and Ways and Means Committee members

I am hereby testifying in favor of HB 1413 HD1

Abandoned vehicles are a significant problem on the Island of Hawaii. This is especially true in the subdivision I live in, Orchidland Estates in Puna.

I fully support proactive measures that will help in Counties address this problem.

I believe vehicle owners should be held accountable for the disposal of their vehicles. Maintaining a record of owners who's vehicles were abandoned is a necessary first step toward the accountability actions set forth in HB 1414 HD1.

Additional fines and penalties for repeat offenders may be a viable deterrent if accurate records of ownership are maintained.

Thank you for addressing this issue.

HB-1414-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2022 5:20:26 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/5/2022 10:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Becky Jones	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Having a tiered fine system is an excellent idea, but only if there are minimums and maximums identified in the legislation. For example, instead of saying "For a third violation, a fine of no more than \$____," it should say:

For a third violation, a minimum of \$_____, but not more than \$_____.

We already have tiered fines/citations in other statutes for other violations that are simply ignored when the individual is cited or fined because there is only a maximum and no minimum amount identified. This bill does not adequately address a tiered fine system in my opinion, and must be modified.

HB-1414-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 8:03:49 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/5/2022 10:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barbara Cigainero	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Committee Chair and Members: Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 1414. We have a big problem with abandoned vehicles in the Puna Region of Hawaii. This bill would create a tiered system of fines to enforce the laws regarding abandoned vehicle. What we need to really solve this problem is a vehicle salvage operation and perhaps the fees generated by this bill could be used to build such a facility.

Mahalo for your consideration of this bill. Barbara Cigainero, Keaau, HI 96749.

LATE

HB-1414-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 10:40:15 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/5/2022 10:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
P Hauoli'ipo Wright	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm still concerned with the wording of this bill as it isn't clear what a "tiered fine system" would be exactly. I would like to support HB1414, but without knowing what "a tiered fine system" mean, for now I have questions (what's the fine system and what are the causes). I believe that holding the registered owner responsible for the fines and costs of disposal as well as canceling their driver's license is sufficient punishment.

LATE

HB-1414-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 6:09:26 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/5/2022 10:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julia Lindbergh	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB 1414 from Representative Ilagan. Thank you very much. Julia Lindbergh, RN

LATE

HB-1414-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 8:06:51 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/5/2022 10:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brian F Jordan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

A tiered system make sense. The punishment should be commensurate with the level of offense. Those who create more expenses should be subject to greater fines. It should be limited only to the actual cost of services provided. The State should consider the difference in just towing and towing with environmental clean up. If the vehicle is well maintained, perhaps it justifies only a towing fee. An example might be \$75. If the vehicle has been stripped or used as a makeshift drug lab, the cost of cleanup surely will increase. HAZMAT cleanup should be considered when deciding the fine amount.. Fines should reflect the actual cost of service.