

STATE OF HAWAI‘I  
**OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER**

**Testimony of the Office of the Public Defender  
State of Hawai‘i, to the Senate Committee on Judiciary**

March 22, 2022

H.B. No. 1486 HD2: RELATING TO THEFT

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee:

The Office of the Public Defender respectfully opposes H.B. No. 1486 HD2, which would amend HRS § 708-830.5 to add theft of a motor vehicle or motorcycle as defined under section 291C-1 of the Hawai‘i Revised Statutes to the crime of Theft in the First Degree. As it currently stands, the majority of motor vehicle and motorcycle theft cases are prosecuted as class C felonies punishable by up to five years in prison and/or a \$10,000 fine. This proposed bill would make *all* motor vehicle and motorcycle thefts class B felonies, punishable by up to ten years in prison and/or a \$25,000 fine.

We want to stress that this bill will have no effect on deterring theft. The idea that the existence of a particular criminal offense serves as a deterrent to criminal activity has long been rejected. Those who engage in criminal conduct do not stop to weigh the judicial consequences of their actions. In this case, a difference between a five-year and ten-year possible prison term will do nothing to deter a car or motorcycle thief. The best way to deter a thief is to use locks, install security cameras, and utilize technology that creates a fear in the person contemplating theft that he or she is likely to get caught. If this bill were to pass, all it would do is create lengthier prison terms for those who did get caught.

If the legislature is inclined to pass this amendment, it needs to consider that our prisons will quickly become more overcrowded and the burden on our already limited social services will grow exponentially. Our jails and prisons are filled above not only design capacity but also operational capacity. A significant portion of the State’s prison population are incarcerated in a contracted private, for-profit prison in Arizona; they are exiled thousands of miles away from their families, friends, and crucial support networks. According to a recent study by the Prison Policy

Initiative, in 2018, Hawai‘i had an incarceration rate of 487 per 100,000 people.<sup>1</sup> Although Hawai‘i ranked 37th among the 50 states, if every state was an independent nation, Hawai‘i would have the 43rd highest incarceration rate in the world.<sup>2</sup> Only three foreign countries have a higher incarceration rate than Hawai‘i.<sup>3</sup> Thus, Hawai‘i locks up a higher percentage of its people than many wealthy democracies do.<sup>4</sup> With the recent nationwide review of criminal justice policies, it is concerning that the trend in the State of Hawai‘i is to increase penalties.

In conclusion, the proposed bill does nothing to deter motor vehicle or motorcycle theft since it is a purely a punitive measure. As noted above, our penal code is adequately structured to cover a multitude of motor vehicle theft-related scenarios. What this bill will have an effect on doing is exacerbating our already overcrowded jail facilities and further clog our judicial system.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

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<sup>1</sup> Prison Policy Initiative, “States of Incarceration: The Global Context.” *See* <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/global/2018.html>

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> Prison Policy Initiative, “Hawaii profile.” *See* <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/profiles/HI.html>

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

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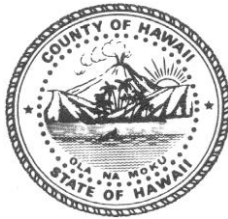
<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> Prison Policy Initiative, “Hawaii profile.” *See* <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/profiles/HI.html>

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

**KELDEN B.A. WALTJEN**  
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

**STEPHEN L. FRYE**  
FIRST DEPUTY  
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



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FAX: (808) 887-3016

## **OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY**

### **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 1486 HD2**

**A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING  
TO THEFT IN THE FIRST DEGREE; MOTOR VEHICLES**

**COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**  
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 9:31 a.m.  
Via Videoconference  
State Capitol Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street

Honorable Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary. The County of Hawai'i, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney submits the following testimony in strong support of House Bill 1486 HD2.

This bill was drafted to establish Theft of a Motor Vehicle as a subsection of Theft in the First Degree, under Section 708-830.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended ("HRS"), with the intent to not only increase the penalties for felony theft of motor vehicles and motorcycles but also alleviate the necessity of obtaining valuations in order to prosecute a felony auto and/or motorcycle theft.

Currently, most motor vehicle thefts are prosecuted as Theft in the Second Degree, under HRS Section 708-831, and/or Unauthorized Control of Propelled Vehicle in the First Degree, under HRS Section 708-836, both of which are only class C felony offenses. By increasing the penalty to a class B felony offense, offenders would be subject to the possibility of a ten (10) year prison term or in the alternative four (4) years probation and up to eighteen (18) months of incarceration as a term and condition of probation, as opposed to only twelve (12) months incarceration for an offender who is sentenced to probation for a class C felony offense. The increased penalties promote respect for the law, ensure that offenders receive an appropriate sentence that reflects the seriousness of the offense, provides adequate deterrence for future criminal activity, and protects the public. In addition, by alleviating the need for law enforcement and a victim to produce a valuation or estimate of a stolen vehicle we minimize further victimization of the complainant, delayed prosecution, and ensure that victims of all socioeconomic backgrounds are treated fairly.

Hawai'i Island is composed of rural communities, with limited mass public transit accommodations to service the needs of our residents. As a result, citizens rely heavily upon personal vehicles for their daily transportation, livelihoods, and to support their families.

Victims of motor vehicle theft often share the hardships incurred as a result of losing their sole means of transportation. In addition, these motor vehicles often times contain personal property including but not limited to work related tool and trade equipment, child safety equipment (car seats, strollers, etc.), money, mobile electronic devices, and confidential and personal information, which may subject the victim to additional crimes and/or vulnerability.

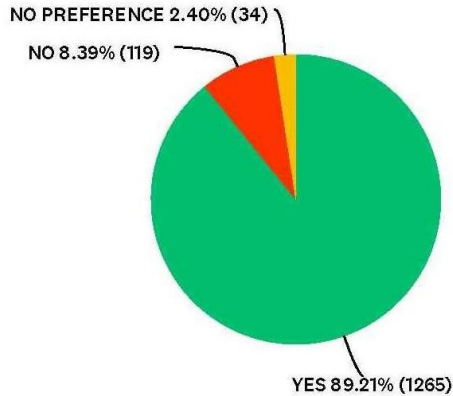
Over the past year, our Office has met with community groups, local government leaders, law enforcement officials, and members of the public about their concerns and interests regarding the criminal justice system. Given recent crime trends and in consideration of the criminal matters that are handled by our Office, we collected data through an online survey in hopes of addressing our community's concerns and prioritizing the safety and well-being of Hawai'i Island residents. A total of 1,422 individuals participated in our online legislative initiatives survey, which ran from December 9, 2021 through December 30, 2021. Of those 1,422 participants, 1,265 or 89.21% of those surveyed, supported establishing Theft of a Motor Vehicle as a class B felony offense. Please see the attached graph for more information.

The County of Hawai'i, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney remains committed to the pursuit of justice with integrity and commitment.

For the foregoing reasons, the, County of Hawai'i, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney strongly supports the passage of House Bill No. 1486 HD2. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

**Q2 Do you support creation of a grand theft auto offense (Theft of a Motor Vehicle or Motorcycle) which increases the maximum penalty from a five (5) year prison term to a ten (10) year prison term?**

Answered: 1,418 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
YES	89.21%	1,265
NO	8.39%	119
NO PREFERENCE	2.40%	34
TOTAL		1,418

**BACKGROUND**

Currently most car thefts are prosecuted under the offenses of Unauthorized Control of a Propelled Vehicle in the First Degree (operating a vehicle or changing the vehicle’s identity without the owner’s consent) and Theft in the Second Degree (theft of property which exceeds \$750 in value), both of which are only class C felony offenses, and carry a maximum penalty of five (5) years in prison. In order to prosecute a felony theft as a class B felony, the stolen property in question (a motor vehicle or motorcycle) would have to be valued at an amount greater than \$20,000.

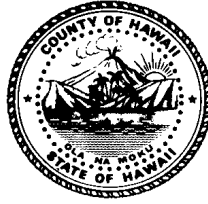
Under HRS 708-830.5, Theft in the First Degree is a class B felony offense and carries a maximum penalty of ten (10) years in prison.

**PROSECUTORS PROPOSAL**

The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney proposes establishing “Theft of a Motor Vehicle and/or Motorcycle” as a subsection of Theft in the First Degree to eliminate the need to provide an estimated value of a vehicle or motorcycle in order to prosecute a class B felony theft. Furthermore, by increasing the maximum penalty, we promote respect for the law, ensure that offenders receive an appropriate sentence that reflects the seriousness of the offense, provide adequate deterrence for future criminal activity, and protect the public.

**LATE**

*From the office of -*  
Council Member  
District 3



Office: (808) 961-8396  
Fax: (808) 961-8912  
Email: [sue.leeloy@hawaiicounty.gov](mailto:sue.leeloy@hawaiicounty.gov)

**SUSAN L.K. LEE LOY**

25 Aupuni Street, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

March 21, 2022

The Honorable Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
The Honorable Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**Re: Support HB 1486 HD2 relating to Theft**

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1486 HD2, relating to theft, which was drafted with the intent to not only increase the penalties for felony theft of motor vehicles and motorcycles but also alleviate the necessity of obtaining valuations in order to prosecute a felony auto and/or motorcycle theft.

Currently, most motor vehicles and/or motorcycle thefts are prosecuted as Theft in the Second Degree and/or Unauthorized Control of Propelled Vehicle in the First Degree, both of which are only class C felony offenses and punishable by a maximum 5 year prison sentence. By increasing the penalty for vehicle theft, we promote respect for the law, ensure offenders receive an appropriate sentence reflective of the seriousness of the offense, provide adequate deterrence for future criminal activity, and protect the public.

Aloha Piha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan L.K. Lee Loy".

Susan "Sue" L.K. Lee Loy  
Council Member, County of Hawai'i, District 3  
Chair, Committee on Public Works and Mass Transit  
Chair, Committee on Human Services and Social Services



**Mitchell D. Roth**  
Mayor



**Lee E. Lord**  
Managing Director

**Robert H. Command**  
Deputy Managing Director

**LATE**

**County of Hawai'i**  
**Office of the Mayor**

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553  
KONA: 74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy., Bldg C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740  
(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

March 21, 2022

Chair, Sen. Karl Rhoads  
Vice-Chair, Sen. Jarrett Keohokalole  
Judiciary Committee  
Hawai'i State Legislature  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

**Subject: H.B. 1486 HD2 RELATING TO THEFT**  
**Hearing Date: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 9:31 a.m.**  
**Time/Place of Hearing: Via Video Conference**  
**Conference Room 016**


Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and committee members;

On behalf of the County of Hawai'i, I am expressing my support for HB 1486 HD2 and stand by previous testimony submitted by the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney for the County of Hawai'i.

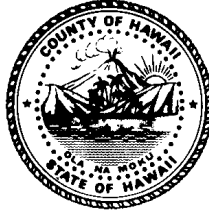
As the former Prosecuting Attorney for the County of Hawai'i, I firmly believe that HB1486 HD2 will serve both law enforcement and our community by creating an appropriate level of offense and punishment for motor vehicle theft as well as, being a potential deterrent to criminal behavior.

Your sincerest consideration is greatly appreciated.

Mahalo,

  
Mitchell D. Roth  
Mayor  
County of Hawai'i

**Dr. Holeka Goro Inaba**  
Council Member, District 8, N. Kona



Office: (808) 323-4280  
Email: holeka.inaba@hawaiicounty.gov

## HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Hawai'i  
West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A  
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.  
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740

March 21, 2022

Committee on Judiciary  
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair

Re: **Support** for HB1486 HD2 RELATING TO THEFT  
Videoconference Hearing: March 22, 2022 at 9:31 a.m.

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the above referenced Committee,

On behalf of myself and constituents of Council District 8 in North Kona, I would like to express support for the above referenced bill, and submit a brief testimony as follows:

We fully support this measure that would amend the offense of theft in the first degree to specifically include the theft of a motor vehicle or motorcycle.

On Hawai'i Island, there is immense concern over the rise of motor vehicle thefts – and we agree that there needs to be stiffer penalties. The remedy within this measure to include theft of a motor vehicle under theft in the first degree to elevate the offense to a class B felony, with a maximum penalty of up to \$25,000 and ten years of imprisonment, is needed.

We strongly urge that you pass HB1486 HD2.

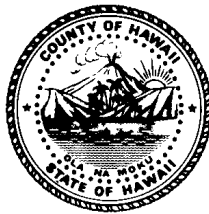
Sincerely,

---

DR. HOLEKA GORO INABA, Council Member  
District 8, North Kona

**LATE**

County of Hawai'i  
Council District 9 -  
North and South Kohala



Phone: (808) 961-8564  
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Email: [tim.richards@hawaiiicounty.gov](mailto:tim.richards@hawaiiicounty.gov)

**Chair:** Committee on Regenerative  
Agriculture, Water, Energy, &  
Environmental Management

**HERBERT M. "TIM" RICHARDS, III**  
**HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL – DISTRICT 9**  
*25 Aupuni Street, Ste. 1402, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720*

March 21, 2022

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair  
Committee on Judiciary  
via online transmission only

RE: HB 1486, HD2  
Hearing Date: March 22, 2022

Aloha Chair Rhoads and Vice Chair Keohokalole:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB 1486, HD2 as I fully support this bill.

HB 1486, HD2 is critical for the well-being of our residents and visitors alike. Any vehicle or motorcycle theft not only leaves the owner with emotional injury, but the livelihood of themselves and/or their family has also been jeopardized by said theft, affecting employment, school, and ability to obtain necessities. An increase in penalty is necessary to address the uptick of vehicle/motorcycle theft happening daily in our state. HB 1486, HD2 does just that in proposing an increase in penalty which promotes respect for the law, ensures offenders receive appropriate sentences, and likely provides deterrence. The time has come to bring this to fruition so our island state can know that its legislature is pursuing the deterrence of vehicle/motorcycle theft, that literally leaves one stranded.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony on a topic. If you would like to discuss my knowledge of this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Aloha,

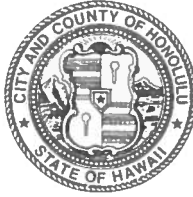
HERBERT M. "TIM" RICHARDS, III

POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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

**LATE**

RICK BLANGIARDI  
MAYOR



RADE K. VANIC  
INTERIM CHIEF

OUR REFERENCE JH-KK

March 22, 2022

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Judiciary  
State Senate  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 016  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Rhoads and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 1486, H.D. 2, Relating to Theft

I am Jarod Hiramoto, Captain of the Criminal Investigation Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports House Bill No. 1486, H.D. 2, Relating to Theft.

Currently, when a suspect is arrested for a stolen vehicle, they are charged with Section 708-836, Unauthorized control of a propelled vehicle in the first Degree of the Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) or Section 708-836.1, Unauthorized control of a propelled vehicle in the second degree, HRS. However, the suspect has to have control of the vehicle to be charged with this violation. Simply being in possession of or having access to the stolen vehicle is insufficient to sustain a charge of theft of a vehicle. Amending the offense of Theft in the First Degree to include the theft of a motor vehicle will enhance law enforcement's capabilities to arrest and charge a suspect for this violation.

The HPD urges you to support House Bill No. 1486, H.D. 2, Relating to Theft, and we thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rade K. Vanic  
Interim Chief of Police

  
for Jarod Y. Hiramoto, Captain  
Criminal Investigation Division

**HB-1486-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/18/2022 8:02:44 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/22/2022 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Allen Bartolome	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole and members on the Senate Committee on the Judiciary. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1486. I reside on Hawai'i island and have seen the emotional, financial and environmental impact on our community.

Social media has played an important role in public awareness. Daily on social media pages such as Oahu based Stolen Stuff Hawai'i and Hawai'i Island based Big Island thieves, fellow residents share that vehicles and other personal items get stolen. Often times these are older vehicles that are not fitted with modern anti-theft devices. With the rising cost of housing, food and vehicles, in combination of world supply shortages of vehicles and raw materials, many residents are put in a situation where they are not able to afford full coverage auto insurance nor anti-theft devices let alone the means to replace a stolen vehicle.

The people of Hawai'i should not be put in a position where they should suffer emotional and financial burdens from those who victimize others.

Lots of these vehicles end up stripped and abandoned on public and private lands all over the islands that leave a severe environmental impact on our land.

This bill will hold offenders accountable for their actions, restore public trust in the criminal justice system, deter people from committing crimes, and help lessen the impact on our environment.

Mahalo for your time in this matter.

Respectfully,

Allen Bartolome

Member Democratic Party of Hawai'i

**HB-1486-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 9:42:07 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/22/2022 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ryan Samonte	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support

**HB-1486-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 7:44:45 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/22/2022 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Darrell Tanaka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

cime is rampant...its uncontrolled and its the fault of the legislature...do something more about it.

**HB-1486-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 4:49:26 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/22/2022 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robert Tucker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill as part of a package of legislation addressing theft in our island state.



**HB-1486-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 4:54:29 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/22/2022 9:31:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeff	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly **support** house bill 1486. As a life long resident of Hawaii Island and the district of Puna I have seen a massive uptick of vehicle thefts and violent crime on our island, and the perpetrators being arrested time and time again for similiar offenses. When a vehicle is stolen from a family on the Big Island, their entire livelihood is altered, the providors of a home can no longer effectively go to and from work, children can't get to school as effectively, and our public transit system on Hawaii Island is sub-par at best leaving our law abiding and working class families scrounging to survive.

Our County Police Officers work tirelessly to bring individuals before the court only for reasons of COVID and overcrowding of our jails, be released into the community to violate the law and again deprive a family of their ability to make a living. I have seen media releases from the Prosecutor's office and county police websites time and time again with the names of offenders who have been arrested repeatedly over a short span of a few years be released back into our community to wreak havoc. The criminals of our communities do not fear our police in terms of arrest, and do not fear the consequences of the court as it appears most of these offenders are released to commit more crimes. When did our leaders begin to care more for the criminals of our society more than the working class backbone of our communities? Names on the Big Island such as "Canda-Raigumai," "Bohol," "Canda-Tripp," and so many more who are arrested multiple times just to be granted release or bail reductions that allow these people to go back into our community and engage in more criminal acts and destroy our communities further.

Our law abiding and working class citizens see time and time again our representatives calling for better conditions for our incarcerated people, and oppportunities for career criminals to be released to "better programs" but our every day working person does not get that same support. Criminals are given a slap on the wrist and our communities are being ravaged by their criminal acts. If our state representatives and judicial leaders do not hold these criminals accountable do you task the every day person to defend themselves and their livelihood? Will we have to see more articles and news clippings of similar incidents like what happened in Waianae? Will our people have to arm themselves with weapons to protect their livelihoods and families because our judicial system and representatives do not take seriously the level of crime our communities are facing? I live with and care for my elderly grandparents and I am worried everyday that while I am at work some life long criminal will turn my grandparents into another victim statistic because after multiple arrests for felony crimes they are granted supervised release by our

judges. Why are we so lenient on individuals who have chosen to ravage our people and your constituents.

In conclusion, I hope the house will support the passage of the bill, harsher penalties and elevated charging levels is the first step in holding people accountable for their criminal actions. The people of Hawaii are beginning to become desperate and either arming themselves, or leaving Hawaii altogether. Stop asking the people of Hawaii to be patient and allow further victimization of themselves, or you will soon find a different Hawaii when you walk out of your front door. The People of Hawaii are getting tired of being victims, and if you need anymore evidence of this please take a look at the new releases and skim the comments of people's opinions. If our elected and appointed officials do not push to hold criminals accountable you essentially pass that responsibility to the every day people of Hawaii.

Thank you to Kelden Waltjen our county prosecutor and our county police officers for trying their hardest every day to hold these people accountable.

Sincerely,

An extremely concerned Citizen of Hawaii.

**HB-1486-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 6:45:59 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/22/2022 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rebecca Corby	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this common sense bill....why isn't vehicle theft considered 1st degree theft

already ? makes no sense, also why is this not going to effect until 2050? Make it effective much sooner. Vehicle theft is a huge problem on the big island. I support bills like to prevent it.

Mahalo, Puna Resident

**HB-1486-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 8:21:03 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/22/2022 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Drena L. Rodrigues	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Motor vehicle theft has gotten out of control and there seems to be no deterrent to stop these thieves. This bill would serve as a deterrent or keep these people off our streets. Vehicle theft is tied into many other criminal activities, and so this bill would also help with other crimes.

Our community and our police officers are being held hostage by these criminals, who know that the penalty for vehicle theft is small and most of them get off with a slap on the wrist. We need to take back our community by getting this issue under control.

**HB-1486-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 6:52:20 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/22/2022 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Barbara Cigainero	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Committe Chair and Members. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 1486. I live in the Puna Region of Hawaii Island. The number of vehicle thefts in our area is stunning. There are cliques of young men that steal cars and seem to operate without any idea that they will ever face any accountability for their actions. Increasing the classification of vehicle theft would provide a deterrent to help the police department to deal with the amount of theft occuring. I urge your support for this bill.

Mahalo, Barbara Cigainero, Keaau, HI 96749

**HB-1486-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 9:03:05 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/22/2022 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Becky Jones	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

When a vehicle is stolen, the impact to the victim is tremendous. Not only does it take away the ability for the victim to carry on his or her life, it is often the loss of the single largest financial investment in the victim's life. All too often the loss of a vehicle to theft also means the loss of employment if self employed or the victim lives in an area with little or no public transportation as we have on the Big Island. The hardships created by vehicle are many, but perhaps the single most significant loss to the victim is the loss of freedom and of feeling safe and secure. For that reason alone, this bill is significantly important.

**HB-1486-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 9:13:45 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/22/2022 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Joan Pieper	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I agree this bill is a great idea.

Ada Motonaga

In Support of HB1486

Auto theft is causing me so much anxiety. Not just for me, but for everyone in the community. Last Thursday, my keys were stolen out of my truck for the second time and I don't know where they are or who even stole them and it makes me very scared. I hope this bill passes to stop crimes like this from happening!



**HB-1486-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 5:05:36 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/22/2022 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Julia Lindbergh	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am IN favor of HB 1486 presented by Representative Ilagan. Thank you,

Julia Lindbergh, RN

**LATE**

**HB-1486-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/22/2022 4:44:21 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/22/2022 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Melanie Kim	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We need stronger penalties for offenders who commit car theft. On the Big Island, offenders keep committing crimes since they know they can get away with it. Furthermore they deface, trash and abandon vehicles in residential areas and on the roads. Please support this bill

**LATE**

**HB-1486-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/22/2022 6:48:33 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/22/2022 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Judith Ann Tang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in full support of HB1486. Auto theft is such a major problem in Hawaii with hardly any consequences. At least changing the consequences of stealing cars may deter it somewhat. Citizens need to feel safe in their community and their possessions. Please pass HB1486 to help make our citizens feel safer.