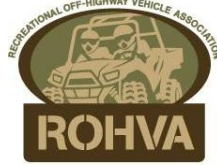




**MOTORCYCLE
INDUSTRY
COUNCIL®**



February 2, 2021

The Honorable Christopher Kalani C. Lee
415 South Beretania Street
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 216
Honolulu, HI 96813

The Honorable Jarrett K. Keohokalole
415 South Beretania Street
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
Honolulu, HI 96813

The Honorable Stanley Pai Chang
415 South Beretania Street
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 226
Honolulu, HI 96813

The Honorable Bennette Misalucha
415 South Beretania Street
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 215
Honolulu, HI 96813

The Honorable Gilbert S.Coloma Keith-Agaran
415 South Beretania Street
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 221
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: SB 1008 - MIC, SVIA, and ROHVA support powersports representation on the autonomous transportation task force

Dear Senators Lee, Chang, Keith-Agaran, Keohokalole, and Misalucha:

The Motorcycle Industry Council (MIC), the Specialty Vehicle Institute of America (SVIA), and the Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association (ROHVA) – collectively referred to as the U.S. powersports industry – request that SB 1008 be amended to provide representation from the powersports industry on the proposed autonomous transportation task force.

The powersports industry thanks you for your introduction of SB 1008, which will create an autonomous transportation task force with the stated goal to “prepare the State for the inevitable adoption and use of autonomous vehicles and to make recommendations to the legislature to assist with the transition.” We believe that the powersports industry should have representation on the task force given that there are unique road safety concerns for motorcyclists in a similar manner to unique safety concerns for bicycles and pedestrians.

In order to truly yield significant safety benefits, automated vehicle (AV) technology must be tested and developed to reliably detect and appropriately respond to all roadway users, including motorcyclists. Properly deployed AV systems could reduce motorcycle injuries and fatalities. Alternatively, failure to correctly identify and manage motorcycle signatures in AV technology could have catastrophic results, resulting in more car-motorcycle crashes leading to an increase in injuries and fatalities. AV systems and related infrastructure changes must be thoughtfully implemented.

The safe rollout of AVs also impacts the safety of off-highway vehicle users who, in certain instances, may cross roadways to continue access to trails. Like motorcycles, bicycles, and pedestrians, consideration of the impact to off-highway vehicles (OHV) users should also be incorporated by having powersports industry representation. Powersports representation is also important because any state policy affecting AVs could affect manufacturers of motorcycles, ATVs and OHVs.

In closing, we applaud the proposed creation of the autonomous transportation task force and we look forward to being part of the discussion and solutions for an effective rollout of AVs.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at sschloegel@MIC.org or 703 446 0444 x 3202.

Sincerely,



Scott P. Schloegel
Senior Vice President Government Relations
Motorcycle Industry Council (MIC)
Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association (ROHVA)
Specialty Vehicle Institute of America (SVIA)

cc: The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker
The Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro
The Honorable Glenn S. Wakai
Senate Committee on Transportation Members

The Motorcycle Industry Council (MIC), Specialty Vehicle Institute of America (SVIA) and the Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association (ROHVA) are member associations representing hundreds of companies in the motorcycle, all-terrain vehicle (ATV) and recreational off-highway vehicle (ROV, sometimes called side-by-sides) business, including manufacturers, distributors, retailers, and allied trades in the powersports industry. We are a nearly \$40 billion industry with more than 12.2 million motorcycles in use across the country and more than ten million ATVs and ROVs in use.



183 Pinana St., Kailua, HI 96734 • 808-262-1285 • info@350Hawaii.org

To: The Senate Committee on Transportation
From: Brodie Lockard, Founder, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Thursday, February 4, 3:00 pm

In strong support of SB 1008

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and members:

350Hawaii strongly supports SB1008. And we urge you to include one additional member on the task force.

The autonomous vehicle legal preparation task force formed by HCR 220 [2019] produced two recommendations: make them electric, and make them shared. Autonomous Vehicles (AVs) offer a one-time opportunity to fight climate change by replacing gas-powered vehicles with EVs (electric vehicles) on a wide scale.

Every AV should be an EV. To fully capitalize on this crucial opportunity to fight climate change, we strongly suggest that you include on the task force someone with experience in and knowledge of limiting greenhouse gases from the transportation sector.

"It should not be assumed that all AVs of the future will operate on electric powertrains. While GM and Waymo invest in zero-emission AVs, other companies like Uber and Ford are piloting AV technology on gasoline-powered vehicles. BU's Institute for Sustainability argues that one important way to shape this future is to demand that electric AVs be part of testing fleets. As companies want to expand testing to new cities, cities have the ability to demand the types of vehicles operated on their roads" [1].

"As discussed previously, the most important determinant for direct emissions from AVs is their fuel source" [p.70]; "Successfully deploying a combination of automated vehicles, shared mobility systems, and electric/zero emission vehicles could reduce energy consumption and related emissions by 60% over the next 30 years" [2].

and

"One of the critical concerns with AVs is that they will dramatically increase vehicle miles travelled ... there must be a push from policymakers to make them shared to avoid increased congestion and energy use" [1].

A representative from the Ulupono Initiative, Blue Planet Foundation or 350Hawaii.org would bring relevant expertise, as well as an established broad contact with the public, to lend support for a policy of every AV being an EV.

Respectfully,
Brodie Lockard
350Hawaii.org

[1] Preliminary Report of The Hawaii Autonomous Vehicles Legal Preparation Task Force, p. 70.

[2] Preliminary Report of The Hawaii Autonomous Vehicles Legal Preparation Task Force, p. 69.

Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association

PO BOX 6310

Hilo, HI 96720

hawaiidriveelectric@gmail.com



February 3, 2021

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye and Transportation Committee Members,

Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association is in SUPPORT of SB1008.

Autonomous vehicles will play an important role in our transportation future. It has the potential to reduce the number of vehicles in circulation, to increase road/traffic safety, and reduce the cost burden of transportation for our people. A keen understanding of the technology and its application, the relevant developments across the globe, and local (city and rural) considerations will allow us to more proactively and decisively respond to this inevitable automation. A dedicated taskforce in our Department of Transportation will ensure that we are prepared for this technology.

The technology that enables autonomous vehicles is astounding and includes a variety of sensors, high-power computing, and AI. This allows each vehicle to assess and respond to the environment many times better than a human. This set of capabilities will enhance collision avoidance and increase the safety of road transport.

Autonomous vehicles are already here. It has been deployed by several auto manufacturers and the level of automation continually improves. Note that many of these vehicles have been operating on our roads since 2016¹. In other countries², large scale pilots have been implemented.

Fully autonomous vehicles also have the potential to reduce Hawaii's need for cars. With many vehicles efficiently made available for rent/hailing, our residents may be able to forgo costly car ownership. This would allow each vehicle to be on the road many more hours each day compared to vehicles today. This will have a net effect of reducing 'Vehicle Miles Traveled'³ and minimizing the need for expensive parking.

¹ Tesla delivered Level 2 autonomous vehicles starting in 2016 and we have owners who have used the feature on their long commutes without incident. Of course, the technology has improved, and the latest vehicles are now equipped with Level 3 autonomy. Full autonomy is only a few years away.

² A robo-taxi pilot was launched in Shenzhen, China. <https://roboticsandautomationnews.com/2021/01/28/autox-launches-fully-driverless-robotaxi-service-to-the-public-in-china/40006/>

³ Our post on VMT reduction: <https://hawaiiev.org/blog/sustainability-through-vmt-reduction>

Importantly, electric vehicles are the ideal autonomous transportation. Their smooth and responsive driving experience, ample stable electric power (needed to manage the various sensors and computing technology), and computing power (they're referred to as 'smartphones on wheels') make them ideal for autonomous driving. This can only mean that the emission-reduction benefits that we expect from the electrification of transportation will be magnified by autonomy.

The pace of innovation in autonomous vehicle technology is accelerating and we must invest in research and experts to help guide our response, something that this Autonomous Transportation Taskforce will provide.

Thank you for your support of **SB1008**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Noel Morin', written over a horizontal line.

Noel Morin - President

Hawaii EV Association is a grassroots non-profit group representing electric vehicle owners in Hawaii. Our mission is to accelerate the electrification of transportation through consumer education, policy advocacy, and electric vehicle charging infrastructure expansion. For more information, please visit hawaiiev.org

T E S L A



3500 Deer Creek Road, Palo Alto CA 94304
P 650 681 5100 F 650 681 5101

TESTIMONY REGARDING SB 1008
To be considered by the Senate Committee on Transportation
February 4, 2021 at 3:00pm

Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

Tesla respectfully submits this testimony regarding SB 1008. Tesla supports the spirit of the bill and all efforts to increase deployment of autonomous vehicles. We look forward to commenting further as this bill continues through the legislative process.

SB-1008

Submitted on: 2/2/2021 12:54:58 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/4/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
gleason k hirata	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank-you for your attention on this very important matter.

DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGY is one way that Hawaii can become solvent and prosperous

again in the next few years. We need leaders that can make the decisions that can bring Hawaii

as well as the country into the 21st century in a way that will benefit all US citizens.

Fixed rail made sense 20 years ago but self driving cars and robotaxis are here to take over

the future. PLEASE take the time to look into the Future for the sake of the people and children of Hawaii .

Thank-you again for your time.

Gleason Hirata DVM

SB-1008

Submitted on: 2/2/2021 9:20:40 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/4/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kenneth Eisner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Autonomous vehicles and tech are proven to be safer than human drivers. I fully support this measure.

SB-1008

Submitted on: 2/3/2021 5:22:44 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/4/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dean Shimabukuro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a resident of Waipio Gentry on Oahu and have owned and been driving an Electric Vehicle since 2020.

I left the Auto retail industry in 2019 after nearly 40 years and I have seen much development in the design of automobiles.

I am convinced that electric vehicles will become the dominant choice in the market soon and will influence manufacturers to shift their focus away from vehicles with internal combustion engines (so-called "ICE cars"). I think this Bill will place Hawaii in line with market trends that are presently developing.

Many of the Electric Vehicles (EV's) are being designed to include autonomous driving capability as a standard feature or as part of an upgrade package.

I think that manufacturers are monitoring the governing bodies of the jurisdictions they serve for indications that issues like autonomous driving will be allowed as they move forward with their design and manufacturing planning. If they can see that more governing entities are willing to allow autonomous driving they will choose to provide that to their buyers sooner than later.

Mahalo,

Dean Shimabukuro

President

IkigaiHI, LLC

SB-1008

Submitted on: 2/3/2021 8:32:15 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/4/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nanette Vinton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye and Transportation Committee Members,

I am writing in support of SB1008 which establishes a permanent autonomous driving task force in the Department of Transportation.

The development and testing of autonomous vehicles has been occurring for several years now. Major car brands, as well as several start-ups, already have some level of autonomous driving offered for their vehicles. Level 3 (conditional automation) autonomous vehicles have already been driving on Hawaii's roads and Level 4 and Level 5 (fully autonomous) are only a few short years away, if not sooner. I am a long-time EV owner and drive a Level 3 autonomous vehicle.

Statistics show that autonomous driving can be safer than human driving as evidenced by lower accident rates. Imagine if all cars would automatically keep a certain distance from each other even when a sudden stop is needed. Fender benders would be a thing of the past and traffic flow during commute times could improve. And the impact of accidents from distracted drivers could also be lessened.

Market forces are already increasing the number of autonomous vehicles on the road and I applaud legislators for being proactive in addressing the issues these cars will bring.

Sincerely,

Nanette Vinton

Mililani, Hawaii

SB-1008

Submitted on: 2/3/2021 10:18:43 AM

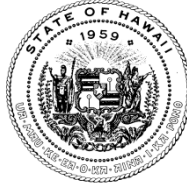
Testimony for TRS on 2/4/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Constance Casey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the use of autonomous fleets. Robots do not get sleepy, they don't get distracted, they use their turn signals reliably, they don't forget to take an exit ramp and cross three lanes of traffic to get there.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN
DEREK J. CHOW
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 4, 2021
3:00 P.M.
State Capitol, Teleconference

S.B. 1008

RELATING TO AUTONOMOUS TRANSPORTATION

Senate Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** S.B. 1008, which establishes the permanent autonomous transportation task force, to be placed in DOT.

The DOT supports all efforts to increase the use of autonomous vehicles on Hawaii's roadways. As stated in the bill, these vehicles have the potential to reduce motor vehicle fatalities and injuries and are better for the environment.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.