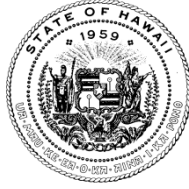


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



**TESTIMONY BY:**

JADE T. BUTAY  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDUARDO P. MANGLALLAN  
PATRICK H. MCCAIN  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

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

February 1, 2022  
3:00 P.M.  
State Capitol, Teleconference

**S.B. 2118**  
**RELATING TO TRAFFIC VIOLATION**

Senate Committee on Transportation

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** S.B. 2118, which requires the driver of a moped to be in immediate possession of a valid driver's license or instruction permit at all times.

The DOT supports any and all efforts to reduce moped and scooter fatalities and injuries on Hawaii's roadways. In 2021, there were 11 moped/scooter fatalities in Hawaii. This bill will make it easier for law enforcement to determine who has a driver's license/permit and those who are driving illegally.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**SB-2118**

Submitted on: 1/31/2022 12:18:18 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/1/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Manabo Sato	Testifying for Moped Doctors Inc.	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

Aloha all.

My name is Manabo "Robert" Sato. I am the Vice president and General manager of Moped Doctors Inc. We are a well established moped repair/sales shop in Honolulu for over a decade and helped out with the City and County of Honolulu on the original moped Safety inspection legislation introduced in 2017. We worked directly with the State DOT to help finalize the sound standards for this process and we are a current moped safety inspection station on Oahu.

We have seen the impact that the law changes regarding mopeds have had on the lives of moped drivers. Many of them are from the lower part of Oahu's income segments. Mopeds are one of the few reliefs that they get from the overall skyrocketing cost of living here. It allows a Hawaii resident on a tight budget transportation mobility and independence.

Because they start as low as \$1000 brand new and get nearly 100 miles a gallon they are also very good for the environment as well as being economical.

The issue is that many moped drivers feel disrespected on the road. Regular citizens feel that they are getting lumped in with "outlaw" moped drivers (who we in the legitimate moped business and rider community deplore) who are the main fault and reason why undue attention is paid to the moped community.

By having law enforcement officers gaining greater latitude in pulling over specifically targeting moped drivers, it would lead to more stress, pressure and difficulty for mainstream moped riders. If some driver is riding an excessively loud, fast or otherwise unsafe moped, a law enforcement officer could easily pull over such people to check for their driver's license or permit with existing laws.

We at Moped Doctors believe there is no need for this change or law and that HPD and law enforcement can use their own discretion with existing laws regarding pulling over moped drivers and this proposal and bill is unnecessary.

Much Mahalos for your time.

Sincerely,

Manabu "Robert" Sato

Vice President/General Manager

Moped Doctors Inc

808-953-9438