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TESTIMONY BY:

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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. 2126
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

Senate Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** S.B. 2126, which increases the minimum and potential maximum fine for violating certain provisions relating to the installation of a noisy muffler.

The DOT has received numerous calls and e-mails from residents impacted by the noisy aftermarket mufflers. We support any attempts to reduce the exhaust noise problem.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

SB-2126

Submitted on: 1/31/2022 11:20:52 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Janel Sterbentz	Testifying for Livable Honolulu	Support	No

Comments:

Livable Honolulu supports this bill with amendments to make the charges twice as high and extended to cars. There also needs to be increased patrolling.

There are many detriments to health due to traffic noise. [One study found](#): "Exposure to excessive noise has been shown to cause a range of health problems from stress, poor concentration, productivity losses in the workplace, and communication difficulties and fatigue from lack of sleep, to more serious issues such as cardiovascular disease, cognitive impairment, tinnitus and hearing loss."

Many people are being woken up which causes increased depression, difficulty in work and unnecessary stress. These cars/motorbikes harm animals and people with PTSD are also suffering.

Mahalo.

LATE

SB-2126

Submitted on: 1/31/2022 10:58:55 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
John & Rita Shockley	Testifying for FREE ACCESS COALITION	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha!

The Free Access Coalition coordinators support SB2126. There needs to be stronger laws to lower the noise pollution that seems to be getting worse on our islands. Law Enforcement needs stronger tools to control noise pollution.

Mahalo for your time.

SB-2126

Submitted on: 1/31/2022 1:54:18 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Denise Boisvert	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Senators,

As Senator Moriwaki knows, our Waikiki Neighborhood Board meetings are filled each month with complaints about the earsplitting muffler noise that forces residents - on the sidewalks and even in our condo and apartment buildings - to completely stop talking until the vehicles pass. Such noise is scientifically known to be extremely unhealthful. .

I cannot thank Senator Moriwaki and the other introducers of this bill enough for focusing on the source of the noise - those who install these special mufflers.

Please pass this much needed bill; and then please make sure that everything possible is done to enforce it.

Most sincerely,

Denise Boisvert

Waikiki

SB-2126

Submitted on: 1/31/2022 2:21:22 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kim Jorgensen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Senators,

Please pass SB2126.

Extremely loud mufflers are a constant source of pain and discomfort, and make it very difficult to continue a conversation or to hear your television, even on the 16th floor of a condo building.

It is very sad that the installers of these types of mufflers do not care about their effect on the lives of others. It seems that the only thing these installers care about is money. Well, if that is the case, they need to be fined the maximum amount of money when caught!

Mahalo to Senator Moriwaki and all who understand how excruciating this noise can be, and for wanting to help residents, tourists, and all who come to enjoy Hawaii's peaceful beauty.

Kim Jorgensen

Waikiki

LATE

SB-2126

Submitted on: 1/31/2022 6:05:50 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Lois Langham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I live in the Ala Moana area on Kapiolani Boulevard and am daily, frequently angered by the sounds of loud mufflers from scooters, trucks, motorcycles and even compact cars. Increasingly, many also seem equipped to loudly backfire repeatedly. Some are ridiculously loud like an m-80. When they are in my block I can't hear my tv on the 14th floor on a tree-lined boulevard. They are a disruptive, irritating nuisance.

LATE

SB-2126

Submitted on: 1/31/2022 6:16:50 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
jason moore	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Good Afternoon All,

I am writing to show my support for SB2126.

I realize that it is very difficult and tiresome to have law enforcement go after repeat offenders of the Moped/Scooter exhaust modifications. My support of this increase in fines is in hopes that it will deter habitual or negligent owners and give the Law Enforcement Officers another "Tool in their Belt" in combating the excessive noise of our beautiful Waikiki.

Great job everyone,

Jason Moore

Ohua Avenue

LATE

SB-2126

Submitted on: 1/31/2022 9:29:35 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jean Jeremiah	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB 2126 - 100 PERCENT!!! There should be higher fines and penalties with vehicles driving around with loud noisy mufflers. It is not only annoying to residents but a complete distraction to other drivers on the road.

First of all, what is the purpose of installing loud noisy mufflers in vehicles? The faster they speed, the louder the mufflers. They act like they're king of the road and they want other drivers/vehicles to move out of the way!!! These drivers should be pulled over and penalized with higher fines. Or their vehicles should be impounded and should not be released until these loud noisy mufflers are removed from their vehicles!!!

LATE

SB-2126

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 1:26:06 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Samuel Mitchell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The noise issue in Makiki has been a long standing problem. Any type of rules change would help so I'm in full support of SB2126. And I think a \$300 is the right amount to stop the noise.

Samuel Mitchell

Member Maikiki Board 10