

SB-2159

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 3:03:31 PM

Testimony for HTH on 2/10/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Samuel Mitchell	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Noise is a big problem in Makiki and Leaf blowers are a small part of it.

Please pass SB2159 (I will be standing by if you have any questions)

Sam Mitchell NB-10

SB-2159

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 4:07:31 PM

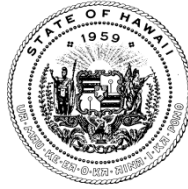
Testimony for HTH on 2/10/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Noise from leaf blowers is a travesty. It wakes us up. It interrupts conversations. Oftimes the operator just blows the leaves around, for no apparent purpose. Whatever happened to using rakes? I live in a downtown Honolulu high rise. Noise travels up. Short of banning leaf blowers, this is a good start. Please move this measure forward for the sanity of all of us who are assaulted by this noise.

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 10, 2022
3:00 P.M.
State Capitol, Teleconference



S.B. 2159
RELATING TO LEAF BLOWERS

Senate Committee(s) on Government Operations & Health

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **opposes** this bill that removes the government exemption on leaf blower restrictions in residential zones.

Under our normal operating conditions, the DOT conducts leaf blowing operations in the time frame provided in the proposed legislation. However, when safety situations are reported, we must act quickly. In doing so, maintenance schedules can be disrupted. With a more flexible schedule, the DOT can assure a quicker recovery, whether it's during daytime hours or not. We recommend that government agencies be given the freedom to determine when these unforeseen situations need immediate action.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

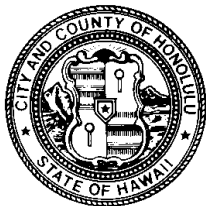
DEPARTMENT OF FACILITY MAINTENANCE
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

1000 Ulu'ohia Street, Suite 215, Kapolei, Hawaii 96707
Phone: (808) 768-3343 • Fax: (808) 768-3381
Website: www.honolulu.gov

RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR

DAWN B. SZEWCZYK, P.E.
DIRECTOR AND CHIEF ENGINEER DESIGNATE

WARREN K. MAMIZUKA
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR



IN REPLY REFER TO:
22-047

February 10, 2022



TESTIMONY OF DAWN B. SZEWCZYK, P.E.
DIRECTOR AND CHIEF ENGINEER DESIGNATE OF FACILITY MAINTENANCE, and
LAURA H. THIELEN
DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS and
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

February 10, 2022, 3:00 p.m. via Videoconference

TO: Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Chair, and Members of the Committee on
Government Operations
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair, and Members of the Committee on Health

RE: COMMENTS ON SENATE BILL 2159, RELATING TO LEAF BLOWERS

The Department of Facility Maintenance and the Department of Parks and Recreation of the City and County of Honolulu (City), offers the following comments on Senate Bill 2159 (SB 2159), relating to leaf blowers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **OPPOSITION** of SB 2159. We are **OPPOSED** to the removal of the exemption of leaf blower restrictions for government agencies as proposed in SB 2159.

While we support the implementation of protective measures for environment and reduction in noise pollution, as operational City departments, maintenance actions and activities often require us to operate leaf blowers within or near residential zones. Leaf blowers are used in carrying out maintenance activities at City-owned properties throughout the island of O'ahu (i.e. streams, parks, road medians, etc.), some of which are within, or near, residential zones. The removal of the exemption for governmental

The Honorable Senator Sharon Moriwaki
The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole
February 9, 2022
Page 2

agencies would severely restrict and negatively impact our maintenance activities and services that we provide for the communities on O'ahu.

Mahalo nui for your commitment to environmental protection and kind consideration of our testimony in **OPPOSITION** of SB 2159.

Sincerely,

Dawn B. Szewczyk, P.E.
Director and Chief Engineer Designate
Department of Facility Maintenance

for Laura H. Thielen
Director
Department of Parks and Recreation

DEPARTMENT OF FACILITY MAINTENANCE
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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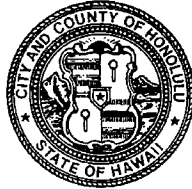
RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR

LATE

DAWN B. SZEWCZYK, P.E.
DIRECTOR AND CHIEF ENGINEER DESIGNATE

WARREN K. MAMIZUKA
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR

IN REPLY REFER TO:
22-047



February 9, 2022

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DIRECTOR AND CHIEF ENGINEER DESIGNATE OF FACILITY MAINTENANCE, and
LAURA H. THIELEN
DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION
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The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole
February 9, 2022
Page 2

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Sincerely,



Digitally signed by
Szewczyk, Dawn
Date: 2022.02.09 16:58:11
-10'00'

Dawn B. Szewczyk, P.E.
Director and Chief Engineer Designate
Department of Facility Maintenance



for Laura H. Thielen
Director
Department of Parks and Recreation