

TESTIMONY BY:

EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DIRECTOR

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

March 31, 2023
2:00 P.M.
State Capitol, Teleconference

S.B. 588, SD2 HD1
RELATING TO EXCESSIVE NOISE

House Committee on Finance

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports the intent** and would like to offer the following comments. S.B. 588, SD2 HD1 requires and appropriates funds for the DOT, in conjunction with the counties having a population greater than 500,000, to develop and implement a pilot program to use noise detection traffic cameras to address excessive traffic noise in urban areas in each participating county. The bill also requires the DOT to submit a report to the Legislature.

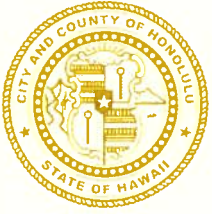
The DOT currently has the Highways Noise Policy and Abatement Guidelines dated April 18, 2016, wherein it states the DOT's noise policy on highway traffic and construction noise. This policy describes the DOT's implementation of the Federal Highway Administration Noise Standard in 23 Code of Federal Regulations Part 772.

The policy states that the level of highway traffic noise primarily depends on three factors: 1) The volume of the traffic, 2) The speed of the traffic, and 3) the number of trucks in the flow of the traffic. Generally, heavier traffic volumes, higher speeds, and greater number of trucks increase the loudness of highway traffic noise.

However, the policy does not have any requirements on individual vehicle's noise emission or detection.

There is technology available to detect vehicle noise emission. Roadside sound meter and camera can provide evidence of vehicles emitting excessive noise. Once the preset noise threshold is triggered, the camera can capture video of the vehicle emitting the excessive noise. This will help to law enforcement to take actions.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



CITY COUNCIL

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March 29, 2023

House Committee on Finance
Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair
Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee

RE: Testimony in Support of SB588 SD1, HD1 – Relating the Excessive Noise

Aloha e Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to share my **support for Senate Bill 588 Senate Draft 1, House Draft 1**, Relating to Excessive Noise. The purpose of this bill is to require the Department of Transportation (DOT), in conjunction with the counties having a population greater than 500,000, to develop a pilot program to use noise detection traffic cameras to address excessive traffic noise in each participating county. The bill also requires DOT to submit a report to the legislature.

My support for this measure is specific to improving the quality of life for residents who live in areas where “car races” happen at various times of the day. Car races happen when a group of cars organizes and meet at a location with a clear strip of a mile or more to race each other. These cars are also specialized with various high-performance accelerators and accessories; specifically, enhanced head pipes that create loud exhaust noise, even when not racing. This means that nearby residents can be impacted all over the island when the cars are simply driving by. Additionally, these races happen at various times of the day, which can startle and disrupt the sleeping schedule of residents in the nearby vicinity.

In these specific instances, I support the passage of S.B. 588 SD1 HD1. Thank you for hearing this important measure and for the opportunity to provide testimony. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tommy Waters". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

Council Chair Tommy Waters

District 4 (Hawai'i Kai, Kuli'ou'ou, Niu Valley, 'Āina Haina, Wailupe, Wai'ālae-Iki, Kalani Valley, Kahala, Wilhelmina Rise, Kaimukī, portions of Kapahulu, Diamond Head, Black Point, Waikīkī, and Ala Moana Beach Park)

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2023 11:51:26 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Annamaria Miru	Foster Tower	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Bill SB588. It is a much-needed first step in the right directions. As Foster Tower's Association Manager, I have received countless complaints from our residents regarding the excessive street noise. The noise levels have made it very difficult for a lot of the owners to live here at Foster Tower (Waikiki) in peace. These owners have been robbed of their right to enjoy their property in peace. Several owners have sold their apartments due to the excessive noise. Children have been moved to Hawaii Kai to belong to that school district because they could not study in peace and could not sleep for 8 hours at night. We have people with severe neurological disorders who are significantly--and negatively--affected by the noise.

Please do your best to take care of our residents (and your constituents) in Waikiki. Mahalo nui loa!

Annamaria Miru

Association Manager

Foster Tower

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 2:06:04 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in full support. Most of the excessive noise we all suffer from is from vehicles--trash trucks, no mufflers, noisy motorcycles, boom boxes in the vehicles, buses, sirens, illegally modified vehicles, etc. We need to stop this.

I live on the edge of Chiantwon and am awakened in the middle of the night by excessive noise, can't hear people on the phone or the television by excessive noise outside.

Please move this bill forward.

This bill has beenn amended to have a defective effective date in the year 3000, some 925 years after it sunsets. No wonder our kids are failing math.

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 2:51:43 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laurence Test	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a resident of Ala Moana Blvd near Kalakaua Avenue in Waikiki and have been greatly troubled for years by the terrible noise going by my condo day and night caused by mopeds and motorcycles. At the age of 82 this is particularly troublesome to trying to maintain a peaceful way of life. I strongly support the passage of this bill! Thank you. Laurence R. Test

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 2:52:03 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cathy Goeggel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass SB588. Noise downtown for those who live here is detrimental to physical and mental health.

Mahalo

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 3:53:46 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Noise pollution is a problem on O'ahu. Please support this important bill. Mahalo.

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 4:01:59 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
J Park	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill 100%. There are too many cars and trucks with custom made loud mufflers. And when they drive by my resident, the noise from those vehicles are so excessively loud that it disturbs me during my time at home and also when sleeping. Those type of mufflers should be illegal and the driver's cited. There is someone who parks their car right near my bedroom window area. And when he starts up his car late at night, it stresses me when I'm sleeping. So this car should not be able to pass a safety check with his custom loud muffler if this bill is passed. And if passed I believe will help to eliminate this and other excessive noise. Also, excessive constant loud noise has been found to cause mental stress and shorten lives. Sincerely, J Park

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 4:39:55 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas Merrick	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I **STRONGLY** support this bill. I have been a resident of Waikiki for 20 years and the level of noise has increased to a level that is nearly unlivable now. Even though I am on the 36th floor the noise from loud motorcycles, souped up cars and even mopeds is nearly as loud as if we are right next to them. Why should a few dozen people be allowed to illegally operate their vehicles creating noise that distrubs THOUSANDS of tax paying residents? We need your help. This bill actually does not go far enough but it is a start. **PLEASE IMMEDIATELY** get this passed and implimented. The sanity of your citizens counts on it.

Mahalo,
Tom Merrick

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 5:33:14 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paul Wrege	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have lived in The Tradewinds Hotel (1720 Ala Moana Blvd.) for the past eleven (11) years. The noise from traffic has increased over the years to the point some owners are moving. The biggest disturbance is due to motorcycles revved up to a screaming pitch at the Ala Moana/Hobron Lane stop light and souped-up cars whose drivers rev their engines in a like manner and peel out from the stop light at extremely high speeds, squeeling and screaming to the next stop light.

In addition some souped-up cars backfire all the way to the next stop light. Excessive speeds are unmonitored and I foresee an accident on the Ala Moana bridge over the Ala Wai, causing deaths of pedestrians one day.

Excessive and thundrous noise persists throughout the nighttime hours, especially 2 am through 5 am.

it is very difficult to enjoy TV, radio, music or even conversation due to this excessive noise and requires "closed captioning" at all times.

Please adopt SB 588.

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 6:05:22 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Mischer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

A first step to stop the noise pollution, by mostly males, inflicted on the general population. Roaring engines and Drag Races should not be reasons for residents to be awakened at all times of the night. Live out your juvenile dreams on race tracks or designated areas and let the rest of the population sleep, please vote for this Bill.

March 29, 2023

RE: March 11, 2023 hearing
Support of SB588 SD2 HD1 Relating to Excessive Noise

Aloha Representatives,

Noise pollution is not just a quality-of-life issue, ***it is also a health issue.***

Attached is an article about how the government in Paris, France, is trying to help its citizens – and the reason they are doing it is for **HEALTH**. Look at the statistics quoted in it:

- A single unmuffled scooter crossing Paris at night can wake up 10,000 people
- The World Health Organization has defined **55 decibels or higher** as the threshold for **cardiovascular disorders and high blood pressure**
- Noise is the second biggest environmental factor causing health problems only after air pollution

Getting control of the unnecessary and abusive noise caused by a minority of persons with no respect for how it is endangering others (and themselves!) must be done urgently.

Please pass SB588 SD2 HD1 and by doing so, the health and well-being of Hawaii's residents and visitors.

Sincerely,
Denise Boisvert
Waikiki



Motorcyclists in Paris are among the offenders targeted in the city's new campaign against noise pollution. *Photographer: Christophe Archambault/AFP via Getty Images*

CityLab | Environment

Europe's Noise Capital Tries to Turn Down the Volume

To combat the ill effects of urban noise pollution, Paris is deploying automated sensors and cracking down on the loudest vehicles.

By Peter Yeung

April 26, 2022 at 7:00 PM HST

By mid-morning, Rue d'Avron is a cacophony. The clank of metal rings out from scaffolding works; greengrocers yell and gesture as crates of deliveries arrive; and streams of chattering commuters pour out of the metro.

But the loudest racket comes from columns of fast-moving traffic lining both sides of the street, which runs from the infamous ring road surrounding Paris known as the *périphérique* and into the city center: **the two-note sirens of police cars, the diesel rumble of buses and, worst of all, the high-pitched wail of motor scooters that speed by every few seconds.**

“It’s hell over here,” says Dominique Léchenet, 55, a longtime resident. “There’s cars, motorbikes, a metro station, and a big road junction. I can’t stand the noise. It’s unbearable.”

The complaints of those living on Rue d'Avron – considered one of the noisiest roads in one of Europe’s loudest cities – haven’t fallen on deaf ears: In February, municipal authorities installed a device known as sound radar – the first ever in Paris – on a lamppost along the thoroughfare in the city’s eastern 20th arrondissement to detect the loudest vehicles. A second was added in the northwestern 17th arrondissement soon after.



A sound radar device in Paris combines microphones and cameras to detect noise offenders. *Photographer: Clement Dorval/Ville de Paris*

The so-called “medusa” devices, named for their resemblance to a jellyfish (or “méduse” in French), were developed by the nonprofit Bruitparif to identify drivers and motorcycle riders who are flouting the city’s noise regulations. Equipped with multidirectional cameras and a dangling battery of eight microphones, the sensors can hone in on sources of extreme noise and photograph the license plates of offenders. In 2023, the city will begin fining drivers 135 euros if their vehicles break set noise levels.

Motorcycles and scooters – often with their exhaust systems illegally modified to boost noise and power – are a particular problem in Paris, according to Franck-Olivier Torro, spokesperson for campaign group Ras Le Scoot (or “Enough with the Scooter”).

“The noise can be ear-splitting,” says Torro, citing research by Bruitparif that found that a single unmuffled scooter crossing Paris at night can wake as many as 10,000 people.

But the sound radars, which were also installed in six other sites across the country, including Nice and Toulouse, form part of a wider national campaign against excessive noise, which officials say is a major overlooked public health issue, not merely a nuisance. France’s mobility orientation law, which was passed in December 2019, defined noise as a form of “pollution” for the first time.

The wide spectrum of urban noise, and its decidedly unequal effects on city dwellers, attracted fresh attention with the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic and the shift toward working remotely it triggered. In Vancouver, for example, complaints about residential and construction noise more than doubled in the early weeks of the pandemic. But whether the culprits are shrieking leaf blowers, idling trucks or thumping car stereos, enforcement of excessive noise complaints tends to be spotty and ineffective. The advent of automated sensor technologies like Paris’ sound radar program could change that, offering hope that cities can develop new remedies for an age-old urban complaint.

[Read More: Automating the war on noise pollution](#)



The “périphérique” highway is a prime contributor to the Paris noise map. *Photo: Peter Yeung/Bloomberg CityLab*

Paris is something of a hotspot both for noise pollution and for municipal efforts to control it. European Environment Agency [data](#) shows the French capital is one of Europe’s noisiest cities, with more than 5.5 million in the Paris region exposed to **road traffic noise at 55 decibels or higher – which the World Health Organization defines as the threshold for cardiovascular disorders and high blood pressure** – compared with 2.6 million people in London and 1.7 million people in Rome.

On a national level, **the ill effects of noise pollution in France, which include the loss of productivity caused by disturbed sleep**, costs up to 147 billion euros each year, according to [research](#) by France’s National Noise Council (CNB) and the French Environment and Energy Management Agency (ADEME). Some 25 million French residents said that noise impacted their lives; 432,000 said they were taking tranquilizers to cope with it.

“Noise makes people ill,” says Dan Lert, deputy mayor for Paris. “It rots the life of Parisians. That’s why we decided to act.”

Lert currently heads the city’s Plan Bruit, or Noise Plan, which is aimed at mitigating the din. During its first Noise Plan, which ran from 2015 to 2020, Paris introduced a number of measures as part of its war on noise: installing sound barriers along half the length of the périphérique, increasing roadside noise checks, testing innovative low-noise asphalt and establishing rules that state new housing must have at least one façade “not exposed to noise.”

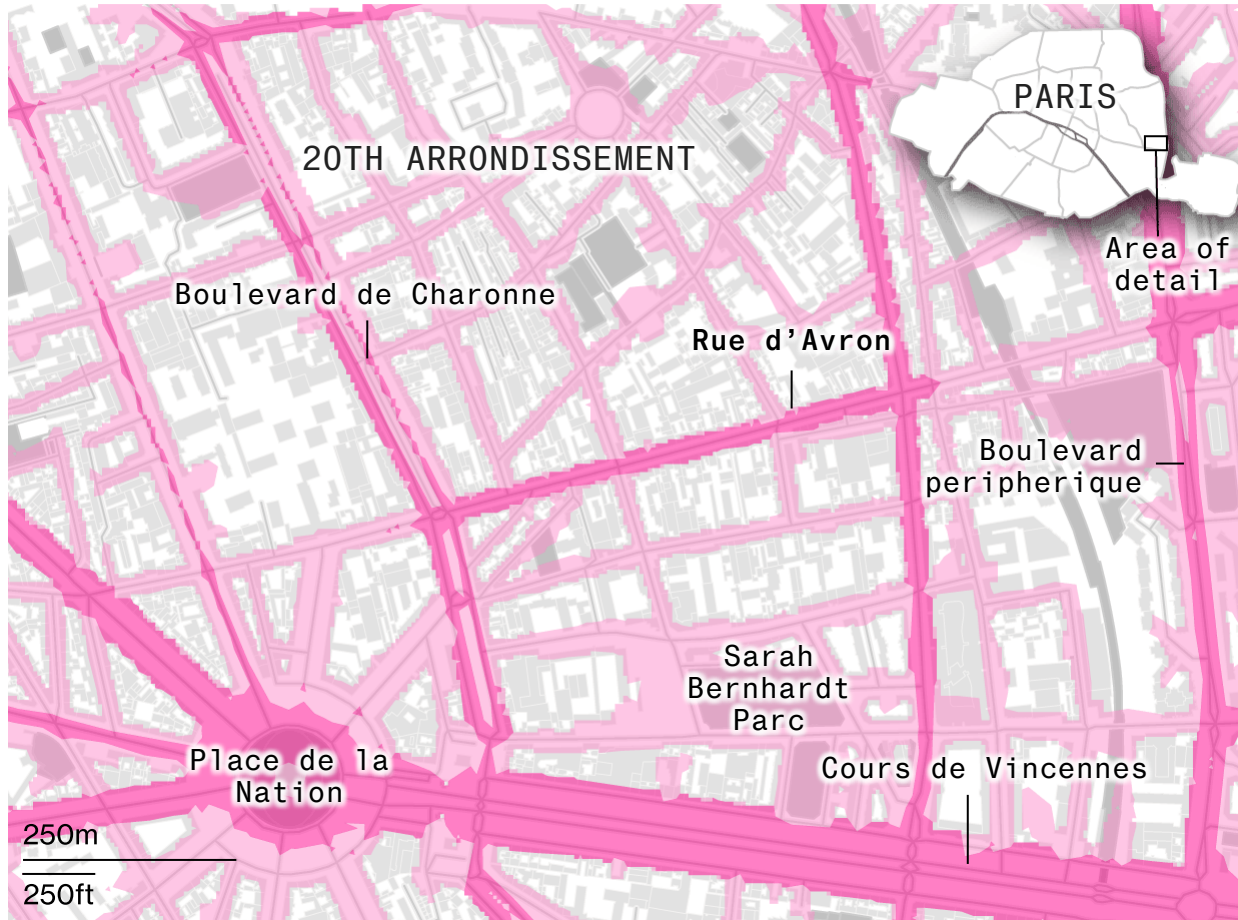
The effort to quiet Paris complements the wider campaign to make Paris greener, cleaner and less car-dependent, which include a series of vehicle restrictions in the city center, crackdowns on the most polluting vehicles, and an ambitious expansion of cycling networks. Those changes have cut the city’s average noise level by two decibels and reduced the number of people living in a noisy environment (using the European “Lden” measurement of a 24-hour average greater than 68 dB) from 231,000 in 2015 to 100,994 in 2021.

It Might Get Loud

A sound map of Paris’ 20th arrondissement shows traffic noise along major arteries

Average daily noise level (Lden)

- Over 53db (WHO threshold)
- Over 68db (European threshold)



Source: Bruitparif, Apur

Note: Noise map is for road traffic only

The second Noise Plan aims to turn down the volume by a further 37% between 2021 and 2026, targeting both “environmental noise” caused by transport and industry and **“neighborhood noise” related to social activities**. As well as the sound radars, the speed limit in most of the city has been cut from 50 kilometers per hour to 30 km/h. Additionally, charges for motorbike parking – currently free – will soon be introduced and restrictions will be tightened on building sites, deliveries and noisy neighbors. Even the city’s police have been asked to turn down their sirens at night.

But these noise-canceling efforts have also drawn some resistance – especially from motorcycle owners, who staged raucous mass protest rides through Paris in 2021 to protest new parking charges, speed limits and other measures.



Motorcyclists ride along the périphérique around Paris in April 2021 as they stage a protest against new parking regulations for motorcycles. *Photographer: Alain Jocard/AFP via Getty Images*

Authorities are responding to a growing body of research that shows noise pollution is a not-so-silent killer. Noise is the second biggest environmental factor causing health problems after only air pollution, according to a 2018 report by the WHO, and a UN report in February declared urban noise pollution one of the world’s “top emerging environmental threats.” A study in 2019 by the Paris

regional health agency and Bruitparif found noise was cutting the life expectancy of Parisians by 10.7 months.

“For a long time, noise was seen more as a quality of life issue, but not a health risk,” says Fanny Mietlicki, the director of Bruitparif. **“But the reality is that there are massive health consequences, and more and more research is proving this.”**

Recent findings are further amplifying concerns: A 15-year analysis in Switzerland published in January found **transport noise is a major contributor to cardiovascular deaths** and had “effects starting below current [WHO] guideline limits.” Beyond the more obvious threats, noise has the potential to impact the inner workings of gene networks and gut microbiota, according to a 2021 study. And researchers in Madrid even found that noise is “an important environmental variable ... to the incidence and severity of COVID-19.”

Their conclusions are unanimous: More needs to be done to fight noise. Under the European Union’s 2002 Environmental Noise Directive, cities with over 100,000 inhabitants must publish a noise map every five years.

“Do you move a school and a hospital away from the noise, or simply move the cars?”

But according to David Rojas-Rueda, a professor at Colorado State University, that data must be acted on. “Data is crucial,” says Rojas-Rueda, who is currently leading a year-long project to produce a noise map of Colorado. “If you don’t measure things, you don’t know what is happening. But once you have that, you have to use it.”

To combat noise, cities have opted for a range of reactionary or regulatory responses. New York City, for example, has limited the time of day when construction work can be done; Dutch cities are focusing on “acoustic insulation” of homes. But Rojas-Rueda believes that Paris’ holistic approach will be more successful over the long term.

“Do you move a school and a hospital away from the noise, or simply move the cars?” says Rojas-Rueda, who was involved in a study that found Barcelona’s Superblock model of pedestrian-first zones led to major reductions in air and noise pollution. “It makes sense to improve the all-round livability of cities.”

And in reducing noise pollution, he says, there’s another key benefit: Inequalities are reduced. Analysis of U.S. data has found noise exposure is greater in areas with higher proportions of nonwhite and low-income residents. The Paris Noise Plan acknowledges these “environmental, social and territorial health inequalities” linked to noise. “The poorest households suffer the worst,” says Lert.

The drab Rue d'Avron, a major artery in a lower-income neighborhood, very much fits that description: It is a world away from the glitz of the Champs-Élysées.

“All day long it’s too loud,” says Felix Westphal, 33, who lives in an apartment that overlooks the street. “Dumpster trucks. Delivery vans. And a horn rings out every time the gates of the compound across the road open – all through the night.”

Some distinctly Parisian noises, however, aren’t likely to be muffled anytime soon. Not far from Rue d'Avron stands the Place de la Nation, a historic square regularly used to begin or end political demonstrations in Paris. Regardless of the sound radar installed nearby, locals suggest that the cherished French tradition of full-throated protest will remain intact.

– *With assistance by Marie Patino*

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SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 6:37:32 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jay Henderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB588

DATE: March 31, 2023
RE: SB588 SD2 HD1

Aloha,

I FULLY SUPPORT SB588 SD2 HD1.

Excessive noise is unnecessary, unhealthy and rude. Examples are:

- modified mufflers that make you need to stop talking until they pass,
- booming stereos in vehicles that shake buildings, and
- highly-amplified noise for an audience 5 feet away

Each month at the Waikiki Neighborhood Board meeting, after Waikiki residents have heard unlawfully loud mufflers every two hours of each day, HPD reports that they cited **only two or three loud mufflers during the past month!!??!!**

If HPD can't – or won't – bother to cite loud muffler violations, then SB588 SD2 HD1 will give them some help.

Time and again, year after year, bills are introduced to curb the noise problems and never make it into law. Please don't let that happen in 2023.

Mahalo,
Kim Jorgensen

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 6:51:28 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Wang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a long time resident of Waikiki, living at the intersection of McCully and AlaWai, I have observed excessive noise levels increasing over the past 10+ years. This has significantly reduced the quality of our beautiful Hawaii.

I fully support a pilot Project to better quantify this issue so that solutions can be strategically implemented.

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:57:44 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Garsva	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Anything to help reduce the noise pollution in our county & state should be strongly encouraged.
Please pass these bills.

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:30:36 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryan Willis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE SB 588

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:33:41 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kanoë Willis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE SB 588

To: The Honorable Chair Kyle Yamashita, the Honorable Vice Chair Lisa Kitagawa,
and Members of the Committee on Finance

From: Ted Bohlen

Re: **Hearing SB588 SD2 HD1 RELATING TO EXCESSIVE NOISE**

Hearing: Friday March 31, 2023, 2:00 p.m., room 308

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Lisa Kitagawa, and Members of the Committee
on Finance:

I **strongly support** this bill to establish a pilot program to regulate noisy vehicles.

Excessive noise interferes with quality-of-life, communication, sleep and work. The U.S. EPA says that noise degrades quality of life by impairing communication and social interaction; reducing the accuracy of work, particularly complex tasks; and creating stressful levels of frustration and aggravation that last even when the noise has ceased. Excessively loud and unabated noises can result in physiological, psychological, and economic damage.

This bill would establish a pilot program for DOT to use technology to detect vehicle noise emissions, with roadside sound meters and noise detection traffic cameras, to address excessive traffic noise in urban areas.

Please pass this important bill!

Mahalo!

Ted Bohlen

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 10:56:39 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This has nothing to do with Noise . this is how you Communist Spy on the People of Hawaii .We do not want any of this in Hawaii. Get ride of it Now!!!

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 11:15:02 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carlino Giampolo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SB588 SD2 HD1 and respect the dignity of all residents and visitors to Hawaii.

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 2:53:29 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Peter Moller	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I live in waikiki. Often on Kalakaua avenue there are groups of motorbikes that rev up at midnight or later at night and the noise is terrible even at above thirties floor. Also some people may walk around late night and yell into thin air for long periods of time, terrible.

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 4:03:02 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Katy Okuyama	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the noise reduction bill. I live on Ala Mosna Blvd. across from the Prince Hotel. It is disturbing and disruptive when cars and trucks have their music full blast or protesting while on the phone. If the person on the other end of the call can hear the noise, that is loud!

Please keep Waikiki be a peaceful and attractive environment for our visitors and for the residents.

Thank you for your support

Katy Okuyama

Resident /Owner Harbour View Plaza

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 6:53:51 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Matthew Popovich	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As an Oahu resident whose family is personally affected by our extreme excessive traffic noise problem daily, I support the intent of this measure. I would direct attention to the testimony from Blaise Yamauchi and Robert Finley in TRN. I will echo the following important points they made:

- We need one consistent upper-bound standard for traffic noise, otherwise the patchwork of standards is impossible to enforce.
- We need to get this right. Other municipalities have tried and scrapped such programs because they were poorly crafted. Let's not miss our chance to address this problem with smart, effective legislation.

Let's model our response to excessive traffic noise on what has been proven to work, and avoid the pitfalls other cities have encountered. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 8:01:57 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marcela Montalto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I live in Waikiki and I believe we can do a better job at keeping noise at bearable levels. Between traffic and leaf blowers sometimes it gets so noisy I barely can think. Noise can cause stress related illnesses, high blood pressure, speech interference, hearing loss, sleep disruption, and lost of productivity. Please make our community healthier by decreasing the amount of noise.

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 8:03:32 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pam Walker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB588 SD2 HD1. The noise pollution in our neighborhood is becoming increasingly intolerable. When I can not enjoy peace and quiet in my own home it is time for change. The street performers with their loud amplified music and the motorcycles and cars with modified mufflers have become a constant annoyance.

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 9:39:01 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Albert Cloutier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I would like to offer written testimony in support of ANY measure which could be taken to curtail excessive noise in urban areas, including installation of noise detecting cameras. I routinely suffer from lack of sleep due to the motorcycles and cars with extremely loud engines racing up and down Kaheka Street, with mufflers which are apparently designed to amplify engine noise, rather than dampen the sound. This coupled with excessively loud music played from vehicles, all hours of the late night and early morning. The lack of sleep is having a deleterious effect on my health and well-being. I support passing and implementing SB 588 with all due haste.

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 10:30:42 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas Miller	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I live at 134 Kapahulu Avenue (Waikiki Grand Hotel), directly across from the zoo entrance. Our neighborhood Kapahulu corridor, from Kalakua Avenue to Kuhio Avenue, is bombarded with extraordinary noise during most of any 24 hour period. This excessive noise can be identified as:

1. City noise like emergency responders and city bus services.
2. Delivery trucks and private busses.
3. Permitted C&C activities like the recent fireworks display (launched offshore).
4. Regular noise from vehicle owners who have enhanced their noisiness/removed their mufflers from their vehicles. These owners/operators like to "show off" their vehicles along Kapahulu Avenue/zoo entrance REGULARLY. They speed up and down the Kapahulu Avenue corridor with no regard for the public. There are MULTIPLE EVENTS EVERY HOUR, 24/7/365. Basically, only inclement stormy weather seems to curtail these behaviors. These "showing off" events often include the zoo parking lot at night-AT ALL HOURS!

Any help the C&C, and State, can do to reduce these noises for residents and visitors alike would be greatly appreciated. I strongly support SB 588.

Thomas Miller, 134 Kapahulu Avenue, #915, Honolulu, HI. 96815

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 10:45:01 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I live on Ala Moana Blvd across from the Hilton. It is a shame to the noise that has grown over the years. Vehicles use the Blvd, fronting the the Ilikai & Hilton for "canyon type - echo" effect. Revving their engines to get the effect of reverberation off the buildings but has reached a point that TV and audio cannot be heard in my home, or causing my guests to jump out of my seats from the loud engines. Vehicles also believe that whatever music they are listening to is what we all all should hear all. The reverberation from the stereos, actually vibrates my condo and it's a STURDY. The hotels to should take responsibility for guests, as they love to "who hoo" to all times of the day and night! I have had people comment that this is Waikiki and the place to come to party and cut loose, but if thats the case would you do this in front of your home? Throw in horns, both car & truck horns, sirens and the party needs to tone down alot! Thank you for your time!

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 11:05:46 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Art Korb	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The noise from motorcycles late at night on Kalākaua Ave in Waikiki is intolerable. Engines are revved to unbelievable loud levels, I am sure the decibels exceed harmful levels, not just annoying.

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 11:07:25 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Younghee Overly	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB588 SD2 HD1 to end the excessive traffic noise in Hawai

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 12:43:17 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kenneth Jacob	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honolulu voters are being victimized by excessive noise. This problem is well documented by the Community Voice "Noise Pollution is Making Our Communities Unlivable".

In Honolulu Emergency Vehicles are excessively loud. Numerous studies have documented the lack of effectiveness and dangers of noise pollution.

In addition to sirens and horns, trash trucks disturb people while they sleep. This is unnecessary.

Motorcycles, and cars with excessive loud mufflers should be banned as well as cars with excessively loud music.

The quality of life in Honolulu can be greatly improved by passage of this legislation.

We are residents of [REDACTED] We are in full support of SB588, SD2, HD1. As we often can't sleep due to excessive traffic noise on Kalakaua Ave. Extremely loud modified vehicles cruise on Kalakaua Ave all day and especially in the evening. We are aware the vehicles are way above the allowable noise threshold. However, the officers in our area have difficulty monitoring and halting the activity. T

The excessive noise continues to make it difficult for me to live and function when I don't get the sleep that I need for work and I can't enjoy my time at home.

Using the existing traffic camera to detect and address excessive noise is something my husband and I wholeheartedly support.

Thank you for your attention to and help in solving the noise problem as I enjoy living in my condominium and would like to continue to do so.

Mahalo for your kokua,

Doreen Yarson

Timothy Andreucci

[REDACTED]

Honolulu, HI 96815

[REDACTED]

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2023 9:41:20 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Peter Steiger	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Regarding SB 588 SD2 HD1

I am writing to support passage of this legislation in order to alleviate the excessive noise pollution caused by loud vehicles that constantly plague the streets of Waikiki. I reside at 435 Seaside Avenue, and my apartment faces Nohonani Avenue. We have been repeatedly awakened in the middle of the night, between 12-4 a.m., by excessively loud motorcycles, mopeds, and autos, most of which have been intentionally modified to make them louder. The loud machines also race down Nohonani at all hours of the day, endangering pedestrians and disturbing the neighborhood even during waking hours. In addition, it is my opinion that the vast majority of the individuals creating this noise pollution are not residents of the Waikiki neighborhood, and deliberately come to Waikiki to behave in a manner that is unacceptable in their own residential area. They incessantly disregard the rights of other citizens of Honolulu and Hawaii, and they deliberately disturb the tourists who form the backbone of the Hawaii economy. Being awakened during an expensive vacation is not likely to encourage them to return to Hawaii in the future. I would also like to note that I ride a motorcycle daily, and it is not loud, so I know that loud pipes are not a necessity to being a committed motorcyclist. I know that passage of legislation is not enough, so the costs required for enforcement are absolutely necessary. I encourage the Hawaii Senate to take steps to pass and enforce legislation to protect the rights of those who reside in and visit the most important economic engine in the state. I thank you for your work on behalf of the citizens of Hawaii, and for this opportunity to voice my opinion in this regard.

SB-588-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2023 11:59:07 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Summer Olivia Royal	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is much needed and I fully support it. Thank you!

March 31, 2023

RE: NOISE POLLUTION

LATE

ALOHA. I AM KAREN HUNTER AND I HERE TO SUPPORT SB 888. I LIVE AT THE TRADEWINDS, 1720 ALA MOANA BLVD., IN A LARGELY RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD AROUND HOBRON AVENUE. THIS IS A MAIN ARTERY TO AND FROM WAIKIKI.

IN MARCH 2022, I CONTACTED REPRESENTATIVE TAM AND SENATOR MORIWAKI WITH HUNDREDS OF SIGNATURES FROM THE TRADEWINDS RESIDENTS COMPLAINING ABOUT THE NOISE POLLUTION. HUNDREDS MORE SIGNATURES HAVE JUST BEEN PROVIDED IN MARCH 2023 IN SUPPORT OF THIS BILL.

THE TRAFFIC NOISE POLLUTION IN THE ALA MOANA/HOBRON AREA IS NEGATIVELY AFFECTING THIS LARGELY CONDO NEIGHBORHOOD. OFTENTIMES, I NEED TO CLOSE MY WINDOWS TO DROWN OUT THE REVVING OF MOTORCYCLES, VEHICLES, TRAIN HORNS, UNMUFFLERED CARS AND SCOOTERS. THE STOP LIGHT AT ALA MOANA/HOBRON IS LONG AND THE STREET, WITH A 35 MI. HR. SIGNAGE, IS LIKE A QUARTER MILE DRAG STRIP TO THE ALA WAI CANAL. WHEN THIS HAPPENS, MY BODY GOES INTO "FIGHT OR FLIGHT" MODE.

THE STAR ADVISER, ON FEBRUARY 20, 2023, ADDRESSED A WHOLE PAGE, COLORED ARTICLE ON HOW NOISE POLLUTION HARMS MIND, BODY WITH STRESS-RELATED CONDITIONS LIKE ANXIETY, HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE AND INSOMNIA. I HAD TO PURCHASE A PORTABLE AIR CONDITIONER AND A SOUND MACHINE TO DROWN OUT THE NOISE AND BE ABLE TO SLEEP.

IF THIS BILL IS ADOPTED, IT WILL INCREASE THE HEALTH AND QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THOUSANDS OF RESIDENTS WHO LIVE IN THIS AREA. MAHALO.