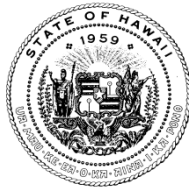


JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



**TESTIMONY BY:**  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN  
DIRECTOR  
  
Deputy Directors  
DREANALEE K. KALILI  
TAMMY L. LEE  
ROBIN K. SHISHIDO  
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA

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

March 1, 2023  
2:00 PM  
State Capitol, Room 325 & Videoconference

**H.B. 1319 H.D. 1**  
**RELATING TO THE TRAFFIC CODE**

House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.B. 1319 H.D. 1 to allow operators of bicycles, motorcycles, or mopeds to proceed on a red light when vehicle detection device does not trigger traffic signal for their approach between 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.

H.B. 1319 H.D. 1 will establish operator responsibilities for bicycles, motorcycles, or mopeds to continue through the intersection in a safe manner.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

LATE \*Testimony submitted late may not be considered by the Committee for decision making purposes.

**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE: (808) 529-3111 · INTERNET: www.honolulu.gov



RICK BLANGIARDI  
MAYOR

ARTHUR J. LOGAN  
CHIEF

KEITH K. HORIKAWA  
RADE K. VANIC  
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE ST-TK

March 1, 2023

The Honorable David A. Tarnas, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Judiciary and  
Hawaiian Affairs  
House of Representatives  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 325  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Tarnas and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 1319, H.D. 1, Relating to the Traffic Code

I am Stason Tanaka, Acting Major of the Traffic Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD opposes House Bill No. 1319, H.D. 1, Relating to the Traffic Code.


The HPD opposes this bill that would allow operators of bicycles, motorcycles, and mopeds to proceed through an intersection on a steady red signal during certain hours if the traffic signal is controlled by a vehicle detection device that is inoperative due to the size or composition of the bicycle, motorcycle, or moped.


If this bill were to pass, it could increase the chance of a collision, as a result of motorists not expecting bicyclists, motorcycles, or mopeds to be crossing at an intersection against a red signal.

The HPD urges you to oppose House Bill No. 1319, H.D. 1, Relating to the Traffic Code. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

Sincerely,

  
Arthur J. Logan  
Chief of Police

  
Stason Tanaka, Acting Major  
Traffic Division

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 2:11:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>  | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b> |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Ray Pagan           | Street Bikers United | Support                   | In Person      |

Comments:

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 9:32:07 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Brant Perry         | SBU Member          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

I support HB 1319.

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 11:03:53 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>  | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Allan Raikes        | Street Bikers United | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I am in support of this bill. Having to deal with this on an almost daily basis I am currently violating the law regularly as the light on my street does not detect my presence while on a motorcycle.

I only proceed when there is no traffic, just like one does at a stop sign.

I suggest that this law be expanded to 24hrs. per day. Between 11pm and 5 am is useless for most who are home and in bed between those times. In addition, I already know that the light on my street as well as several others that I am aware of, will not change. Do I really have to sit there for a complete cycle to confirm what I already know will happen?

Mahalo

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 12:09:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>  | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Terrill Watkins     | Street Bikers United | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Please pass HB1319, it would allow operators of bicycles, motorcycles, and mopeds to proceed through an intersection on a steady red signal during certain hours if the traffic signal is controlled by a vehicle detection device that is inoperative due to the size or composition of the bicycle, motorcycle, or moped. There have been too many times when I was forced to sit through multiple cycles of a traffic light because it could not detect my motorcycle, even though I was directly in the magnetic grid. This forced me to either (a) Get off the bike, run to the corner and trigger the pedestrian button to force the light to change and run back to the bike; (b) wait for another, larger vehicle to come up behind or next to me to trigger the light; or (c) check carefully both ways and run the non-changing light. Two of the three options have increased safety risk I prefer not to have to take. Mahalo!

February 6, 2023



Michael Ferreira  
State Legislative Chair  
Street Biker's United,  
Oahu, Hawaii

RE: HB 1319- RELATING TO THE TRAFFIC CODE

We are in support of the Bill. There are several other States that support a Dead Red provision. For history, the reason why this bill did not pass in previous sessions was that there were supposed to be some new devices that would detect a bicycle, moped or motorcycle regardless of size and weight. These devices are not statewide as of yet and this provision would allow for a temporary fix until the new detection devices are in, and would allow for a provision in case the new system is in malfunction status.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 2:44:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jon Sierra          | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

Please support the "dead red" law for the safety of motorcyclists, mopeds, and bicyclists.



**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 3:03:01 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Manfred Pierce      | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing this letter to express my strong support for the proposed bill that would allow motorcycles to proceed through a red light if the traffic light fails to detect their presence.

As a motorcyclist, I understand the challenges and risks that come with riding on the road, and one of the biggest challenges is dealing with traffic lights that do not recognize the presence of a motorcycle. This can lead to frustrating and dangerous situations where motorcyclists are forced to wait at an intersection indefinitely, even though there is no traffic coming from any direction.

The proposed bill would help address this problem by allowing motorcyclists to proceed through a red light after waiting a reasonable amount of time if the traffic light does not detect their presence. This would not only improve the safety and convenience of motorcyclists but also reduce traffic congestion and emissions by preventing unnecessary idling at intersections.

I believe that this bill is a sensible and reasonable solution to a problem that many motorcyclists face every day but the restriction "during certain hours" should be removed as this is for bicyclists as well and they typically ride throughout the day. It would give motorcyclists the same rights as other vehicles on the road while also promoting safety and reducing congestion.

I urge you to support this important legislation and make our roads safer and more efficient for all users.

Respectfully,

Manfred Pierce

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 3:28:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| corey gaspar        | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

As a avid motorcycle rider who encounters these types of lights daily on my commute to and from work. I support this bill 1000%

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 3:51:16 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Riki Nakamoto       | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

I support HB 1319, with some amendments. Sometimes traffic loop sensors don't work for bicycles. When this happens, sometimes it is because the loop is designed badly, to not be sufficiently sensitive to detect a bicycle.

I support this bill, but it needs some amendments. One is to eliminate the requirement that the cyclist wait to 11:00 PM to cross. The other is that it should take effect sooner. Having it take effect half a year before the 31st century is too long to wait.

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 4:01:01 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Frank Schultz       | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

With the number of vehicle detection device that are still inoperative due to the size or composition of the bicycle, motorcycle, or moped still needing to be upgraded, this measure would allow those vehicles to safely move through intersections until all upgrades have been completed.

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 5:17:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Gerard Silva        | Individual          | Oppose                    | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

To Dangerous!!!

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 5:34:49 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Raimar Bylaardt II  | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

Aloha and thank you for your attention to this matter. Often times when I am driving on my motorcycle I stop at a red light to see it cycle through a couple of times on the other intersections but mines. The light just stays red until a car stops by me to activate the sensors and finally turn the light to green.

Please approve this measure

Thanks

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 5:38:10 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jeffery J Ben       | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

It is always dangerous for any 2 wheeled vehicle with no protection to be sitting at an intersection while cars and trucks are speeding by you while you are waiting for a light that will probably not change because it is to light to trigger. The longer anyone sits at the light the more chance there is that someone can side swipe you, hit you from behind or be inadvertently hit during an intersection accident.

It should be a priority to pass the law to allow light vehicles to safely go through a red light that will not be trigger by such lighvehicle's.

Thank you for the consideration





**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 10:14:35 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Douglas Levin       | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Hello, yes please! Cannot tell you how many times I've had to run red lights or pray for someone to come up behind me and trigger the sensors. The safest answer is to require the state and counties to use systems that identify motorcycles, but pending that technological upgrade we still have a problem. Maybe add language asking the various departments to look into the problem and report back? Thank you for considering this!

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 10:27:07 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Larry Arevalo       | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

I approve this

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 10:40:57 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Thomas DeMello      | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

It's difficult for a motorcycle to trigger a traffic signal even with the motorcycle sitting directly over the trigger markings at the intersection. During low traffic hours I've sat at intersections waiting for a vehicle to come by and trigger the light to change many times.

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 4:38:31 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Victor Beebe        | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

Aloha Honorable Ladies and Gentlemen.

I Victor Beebe would like it be known that I support HB 1319. Mahalo for allowing my testimony be taken into consideration.

Sincerely your

Victor Beebe

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 5:57:04 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| edison              | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

i support this bill, sometimes i'm waiting a couple cycle for me to proceed.

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 6:28:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Steven Loretero     | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

As a motorcycle rider, I am in in support of this Bill. There have been many nights that I'm at an intersection with no traffic coming from the left or the right or from across, and I can't make a legal left turn because the traffic signal device did not detect my presence.

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 6:46:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lisa L. Jones       | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

I feel HB1319 is an important bill to pass for cyclist. As a motorcycle rider, I've discovered there are numerous traffic lights on Oahu that simply cannot be triggered by a bike. After a couple of cycles with no changing light, I'm forced to run the light illegally even though no cars are in the vicinity. I try to avoid these intersections when possible but some are impossible to avoid.

Thank you for your consideration.

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 6:31:31 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Curtis Bautista     | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

As a motorcycle rider I think this would be a good bill to pass, under the hours of operation where it is ok to do so. There have been multiple lights where I have just been sitting there for over 15min at the light early in the morning on my way to work and waiting for someone to pull up in a vehicle just so that the light can change.



**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 6:48:04 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Andrew porter       | Individual          | Comments                  | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I believe this bill if passed would give street bikers a safe and more importantly legal option to avoid getting stuck at these lights. Once your stuck at a light and it isn't turning green the only legal ways to get around it is to reverse which motorcycles can't do and go against traffic to get into a different lane going a different direction that you'd want to go just to get around a stubborn light that won't change due to it not sensing you because your not as heavy as a car or truck.

I genuinely think this bill has the potential to save lives and enable riders to safely pass through these intersections/lights legally. As of right now there is no legal way for a street biker to get around these lights.

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 7:08:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lori Glasgow        | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

I vote for motorcycles, bikes and mopeds to be able to proceed through red light when permitted. The detectors do not sense light vehicles.

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 7:44:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Tish Rothwell       | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I support this bill.

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/1/2023 12:05:38 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kenneth caldera     | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

I have lived in many countries and states. These proposed laws would be beneficial by clearing up road traffic.

Respectfully, Kenneth

**HB-1319-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/1/2023 9:46:26 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/1/2023 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Susan Greenia       | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

Please pass this bill as it becomes a safety factor when sitting at lights for long periods of time. Motor cycles are not heavy enough to trigger the traffic signals. There have been times I have sat through lights four or five rounds before I finally just ran it, please support and pass this bill. Thank you.