



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Thursday, February 8, 2024
3:10 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224 and Videoconference

Providing Comments on
SB 2740

RELATING TO MOPEDS.

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) offers comments on SB 2740 which requires that every moped rented in the State be an electric moped beginning January 1, 2026.

HSEO's testimony is guided by its mission to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation to help achieve a resilient, clean energy, decarbonized economy. HSEO supports the intent of the bill which is to speed up the decarbonization of ground transportation. Ground transportation remains a substantial contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. In 2019, ground transportation contributed 4.03 MMT CO₂e, making up 18.3% of the aggregated gross total of 22.01 MMT CO₂e emissions in the state.¹ For Hawai'i to meet its statutory target "to sequester more greenhouse gases than emitted as soon as practicable but no later than 2045", programs that support the adoption of cleaner transportation options – including zero-emission micro-mobility alternatives such as electric mopeds - are necessary and important.²

¹ State of Hawaii, Department of Health. Greenhouse Gas Inventory [Hawai'i Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report for 2005, 2018, and 2019 \(hawaii.gov\)](#)

² Hawai'i State Energy Office (2023). [Hawai'i Pathways to Decarbonization, Act 238 Report to the 2024 Hawai'i State Legislature \(Act 238 Report\)](#)

Considering the proposed transition to electric-powered mopeds, HSEO emphasizes its support, but also recognizes that the current available electric moped models may not offer a true replacement to combustion-engine mopeds on critical adoption factors such as cost, range, and charging times. HSEO also notes that combustion-engine mopeds offer greater energy efficiency on a miles per gallon basis when compared to other ICE vehicles and therefore can still play a role in reducing fuel use in ground transportation as the electric moped market matures.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 8:39:14 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike Rosenman	Testifying for JP Powersports	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

Forcing rental moped companies to use electric mopeds is not feaseable, the range of batteries are not even close to the almost infinite range achievable with a gas moped, tourist will be stranded around the Islands and companies will have to arrange to pick up their customers, batteries take hours to charge, this is not friendly for our visitors.

Thasnk for your consideration



February 5, 2024

RE: SB2740 Renting or Selling Mopeds

This Bill has been unable to articulate a reason why any rental operator of mopeds should keep private customer records of the rental of said mopeds. This is a Bill with no purpose other than to invade the privacy of the citizenry and to impose a mandate on electric vehicles on a limited basis when it is not being imposed on others.

Further, there is not enough infrastructure to support the charging nor the range for the current generation of mopeds sufficient for the type of use that especially rental mopeds are used for. This would put tourists in danger when being unaware of the true range of these vehicles land them with a dead battery in an area that is undesirable. Having to recharge even a modest number of these rental vehicles would be a hardship on small rental agencies and the downtime for recharging when the vehicles should be out making money for the business is excessive.

The time for 100% electric anything is not now. Not motorcycles, not mopeds not cars. Note that a major rental car firm has started selling off its entire fleet of electric cars due to a lack of infrastructure, consumer inexperience in using an electric vehicle and maintenance. Hawaii is not a pioneer in electric vehicles given the current state of rolling blackouts due to a weak electrical generation grid.

Michael Ferreira
Legislative Lobby
Street Bikers United

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 3:32:15 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nathan Bingham	Testifying for Hawaiian Style Rentals & Sales	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Hello,

I own Hawaiian Style Rentals & Sales in Waikiki. We have two moped and bike rental shops in Waikiki, have been in business for 18 years and I oppose SB2740. SB2740 requires that every moped rented in the State be an electric moped by 2026.

We added electric mopeds into our rentals last year and had to remove them almost immediately, because the 30 miles battery range wasn't adequate for a typical customer who is exploring Honolulu. This means that you could only drive around Honolulu at 30 mph for an hour. There were multiple instances where we had to drive out to the customers on the side of the road and swap out their batteries. We offered the customer's chargers but they couldn't easily find places to charge the batteries and also didn't want to wait multiple hours for the battery to charge. Additionally, the health of the battery degrades significantly when you regularly run it below 20%. Which means we would need the battery to be returned to the shop after less than an hours worth of driving.

Moped rentals are a great option for anyone looking for an affordable, fuel efficient and easy to park mode of transportation. I don't understand why the state would want to rid local people of an economical, necessary and useful form of transportation with such a small carbon footprint. As a state we should be encouraging these alternative forms of transportation rather than outlawing them.

Renting out electric mopeds will be unreasonable until they get batteries with significantly longer ranges or until there is some type of infrastructure setup to support the swapping of batteries.

I do hope you choose to not pass this bill.

I appreciate the consideration.

Aloha!

Nathan Bingham

Hawaiian Style Rentals & Sales

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 11:44:44 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Manabo Sato	Testifying for Moped Doctors Inc.	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha . My name is Manabo "Robert" Sato. I am cofounder, general manager and chief moped safety inspetor at Moped Doctors Inc, a local moped sales/service business located in Honolulu since 2010. We at Moped Doctors STRONGLY OPPOSED SB2740 which means to force all scooter/rental companies in Hawaii to dump their gas powered mopeds for electric mopeds by January 1, 2026.

From our experience, MOST moped rental fleets, which is a very popular and active part of the tourist industry , easily contributing multi millions of dollars a year to Hawaii's economy and providing hundreds of jobs with dozens of businesses paying taxes from their rentals, use gas powered mopeds. Forcing this law would have the immediate effect of destroying ability of most moped rental businesses to even continue to exist.

The reality of electric mopeds is that they are NOT a substitute for gas powered ones. They are NOT a replacement for gas powered mopeds. We at Moped Doctors have sold both. The hard cold facts are 1)Electric mopeds have stopped increasing in range since we first tried them in 2017. 2)Their charging speeds have NOT increased appreciably and still takes 60 times longer on even the faster models (2 minutes to refuel a gas moped vs 120 minutes for electric). 3) There is NO consistently available recharging infrastructure anywhere near as widespread as the plain old gas station which dots everywhere in Hawaii. 4)They still cost a minimum of double or more of a gas moped (making an electric powered fleet MUCH MORE EXPENSIVE and the profits from renting them from high rent areas like Waikiki that much less) 5) Lithium batteries on electric mopeds/bicycles can spontaneously combust and plain explode. Many parts of the world have outright BANNED ebikes/emopeds because of this hazard. Paris, France and New York City are just some of the examples. From what I understand NY Fire Dept had to get special gear to put out lithium battery powered electric cycle fires. 6)Repair, maintenance of electric cycle fleets is much more difficult and specialized then a gas powered moped fleet. Parts are more proprietary, can't be recycled , have a short lifespan (typical ecycle battery lasts maybe three or four years but is usually considered obsolete in two years and gets junked, a gas moped with a four stroke fifty cc engine from as long ago as 2004 can be brought back to life with a simple engine swap with widely available fully compatible engine from 2024. Fully recyclable.)

Electric scooters may stand as an ADDITIONAL OPTION to the gas moped but NOT a replacement for. gas mopeds.

FORCING businesses to substitute a tried, tested, reliable gas powered four stroke moped, which despite not being an electric vehicle, has GREAT gas mileage (easily 100 plus mpg, better than a hybrid gas car), tiny personal carbon footprint, minimal noise (quieter than gas powered cars and motorcycles for sure) is a fallacy of imposing a theory which falls flat in practical and economic reality.

IF (and it is NOT), electric mopeds could go 100 miles on a single charge, there were recharge/refuel stations along the way that could support at least at roughly approaching that of the number of gas stations out there, cost equal to or only a small premium above gas mopeds, and had fast charging capabilities approaching even if not equalling that of gas mopeds, we'd be all for it. But substituting a gas powered moped rental fleet for an electric one has way too many economic and practical and technical minuses vs its pros.

We sell gas powered mopeds to rental fleets now and in the past. Not ONE rental company has inquired about electric options. NOT ONE.

Electric cycles (both moped and bicycles) should be considered as another OPTION for scooter rental companies to use. But because of the costs and technical limitations, they occupy completely different segments of the market with little crossover in utility and price. Until the day comes when electric mopeds can completely or at least reasonably approach the advantages of gas powered mopeds for rentals, there is no contest.

Instead, we recommend that gas powered moped rental fleets be left alone, allowed to continue to contribute to Hawaii's tour economy and all rental companies be allowed the option of choosing to add electric mopeds BESIDE their gas moped options.

Perhaps one day in the future, electric mopeds will be able to be that close to gas mopeds. But based on everything we've seen in the last seven years, it is more likely best to continue to allow them to BOTH be offered, gas and electric and let the customer and business choose which one suits them best rather than imposing a situation where the substitute offered for the product/service can't fit the bill by a long shot.

Mahalo for allowing me to give testimony.

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 12:43:42 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joe Shimkonis	Testifying for Mopeds Direct Inc	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

In response to SB2740 I strongly oppose this bill because of the foreseeable catastrophic consequences it will present. A hotel does not have the infrastructure to properly charge these vehicles nor does this type of vehicle have the range to travel long distances. What is a person to do if they run out of battery power? Additionally, theft of the batteries will most certainly become a serious problem since the thieves know the value of these types of batteries which exceed \$400 dollars. There is already a problem with thieves, particular homeless, who steal moped batteries to recycle or install them on their stolen moped. I can substantiate this claim by having anybody that reads this to contact HPD and find out how many times they have visited Ala Wai Community Park to recover stolen merchandise.

Thankyou for your time.

Joe Shimkonis
Mopeds Direct
750 Kapahulu Avenue
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 4:29:54 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gregory Hartney	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Combustion engine mopeds are not an issue in the community any more than regular cars/vehicles. Mopeds are more affordable and very fuel efficient.

if we go all electric, the power grid cannot handle the load. Electric mopeds have a very short range so will make community mobility extremely difficult. Plus, where do you think all these batteries come from? It takes way more resources to produce the batteries. Hawai'i already has rolling blackouts for lack of power, adding more electric vehicles is not going to make this any better.

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 5:00:29 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Jensen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am opposed to this bill. It would be unfair for small businesses to have to change their fleets out to completely gas-powered mopeds. It will cost them more and make them have to change out completely how they operate. The average gas moped costs about \$1,000.00 and the average electric moped costs around \$2,000 to \$5,000 I do not believe this will be good for the Hawaii economy and have a real effect on small businesses that are not able to afford the switchover to electric vehicles as they are still very expensive. Mahalo!

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 5:32:16 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Fedor Polyakov	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha I am writing in opposition of SB2740.

Requiring mopeds to be electric for rentals presents several drawbacks. Electric mopeds suffer from limited range compared to their gasoline counterparts. Additionally, the silent operation of electric mopeds poses safety concerns as pedestrians and other road users may not hear them approaching, increasing the risk of accidents. Moreover, electric mopeds cost considerably more than traditional models, making them less accessible for rental businesses and potentially driving up rental prices for consumers. Instead of mandating electric mopeds, a more balanced approach could be to incentivize adopting eco-friendly transportation options while still allowing for consumer choice and affordability.

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 7:47:05 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Scott Janssen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Do not pass this law

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 10:06:52 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Iurii Fomin	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

rent of private transportation is big part of hawaiian business. public transportation is not allowed to reach to any part and a same time taxi like uber is not afford to use it every single time.

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 1:21:56 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Hanle	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony Against the Proposed Moped Bill

Honorable Members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

Aloha,

My name is Michael Hanle, and I am testifying today to express my profound concern and opposition to the proposed moped bill that mandates the exclusive use of electric mopeds for rentals beginning January 1, 2026. As a dedicated member of our island's business community, I believe this bill, in its current form, is not only reckless but also detrimental to the livelihoods of countless small business owners who are the backbone of our local economy.

The mandatory transition to electric mopeds, as stipulated in the bill, is an approach fraught with significant challenges and implications, especially for small businesses. At a time when businesses across the island are still recovering from economic hardships, this bill imposes an additional, substantial financial burden without a clear, concise, and feasible mitigation plan. The lack of foresight in understanding the practical and financial realities of such a transition is not only disappointing but also alarming.

Firstly, the cost implications of replacing existing fleets with electric mopeds are enormous. Many small businesses operating in the moped rental sector are already grappling with tight budgets and thin profit margins. This bill, therefore, poses an existential threat to these businesses, potentially leading to closures and loss of livelihoods for many residents.

Secondly, the bill fails to address the infrastructural challenges associated with a swift transition to electric mopeds. The availability of charging stations, the logistics of battery charging and replacement, and the readiness of rental businesses to adapt to these changes are all critical factors that have been overlooked. This oversight demonstrates a disconnect between the legislative process and the on-the-ground realities faced by small businesses.

Furthermore, this bill was introduced without adequate consultation and engagement with the stakeholders most affected by its provisions. The lack of a collaborative approach in drafting legislation that significantly impacts small businesses is not only irresponsible but also undermines the spirit of community and cooperation that defines our island.

In conclusion, while the intent behind the bill – to promote environmentally friendly transportation options – is commendable, the approach it takes is deeply flawed and impractical. It is imperative that any legislative action in this regard be thoughtful, balanced, and inclusive of the voices and concerns of those directly impacted.

I urge you, honorable members, to reconsider the provisions of this bill and work towards a more practical, phased, and supportive approach that aids small businesses in transitioning to environmentally friendly practices without jeopardizing their survival. We must strive for solutions that uphold both our environmental responsibilities and the economic well-being of our local communities.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Michael Hanle

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 1:07:08 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tiana White	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

mopeds have been a huge part of our transportation in the state of Hawaii, and as our islands continue to skyrocket in price, this is the most economical way to get around and not everybody has ability charge an electric moped.

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 2:32:14 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rob Chavez	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Opposing Hawaii SB2470: A Rational Perspective on Electric Moped Rental Shops

The proposal set forth by Hawaii SB2470, which mandates all moped rental shops to exclusively rent electric bikes, is an idea that warrants closer examination. While the intention to promote environmentally friendly options is admirable, there are several practical and logistical challenges that render this requirement absurd.

First and foremost, the current lack of insurance coverage for electric mopeds poses a significant hurdle. As of now, insurance companies have not developed policies that specifically cater to electric mopeds. Without a designated writer for these vehicles, it becomes nearly impossible to adequately insure them. This crucial aspect must be addressed before any widespread adoption of electric mopeds can be mandated.

Furthermore, the absence of comprehensive information regarding the horsepower of electric bikes is another concerning factor. The variability in power output among different models makes it difficult to establish standardized regulations and ensure a safe riding experience. Instances have been reported where certain electric bikes can reach speeds of up to 70 miles per hour, posing significant risks to both riders and pedestrians. Without accurate and reliable horsepower data, it becomes challenging to enforce appropriate safety measures and protect individuals on the roads.

Contrary to popular belief, traditional gas-powered mopeds can also be insured. They are subject to regulations based on weight, horsepower, and noise emission levels, ensuring a greater sense of safety and accountability. In comparison, electric mopeds, with their limited range of approximately 25 to 30 miles per charge, present their own set of concerns. This limited range can pose challenges, particularly in areas where charging infrastructure may not be readily available, potentially leaving riders stranded.

Moreover, the significant cost disparity between electric mopeds and traditional mopeds cannot be overlooked. Entry-level electric mopeds typically come with a price tag of around \$4000, significantly higher than the average of \$1000 for entry-level gas-powered mopeds. This elevated cost presents a significant barrier, hindering access for many students and low-income households who may rely on the affordability of traditional mopeds as a means of transportation.

It is imperative to strike a balance between environmental considerations and practicality. While the transition to electric transportation is undoubtedly desirable, it must be sustainable and feasible for all individuals in society. Instead of an outright requirement, a more incremental approach that encourages the adoption of electric mopeds, alongside supporting the development of insurance coverage, charging infrastructure, and cost reduction initiatives, would be a more reasonable and inclusive path forward.

In conclusion, Hawaii SB2470's proposal to mandate electric moped rentals in all rental shops requires further examination and reconsideration. We must navigate the complexities of insurance coverage, horsepower data, limited range, and affordability concerns to ensure a fair and practical transition towards sustainable transportation options that benefit all segments of the population.

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 2:57:40 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anne Mayes	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Everything going electric is not a great idea. Where are you going to dispose of all these batteries in the future? It is NOT any better for the environment as you want us to believe it is.

They don't support like a gas powered. They are not built as well as a gas powered(atleast the ones I've tried)

I fully oppose this idea

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 3:53:04 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joseph W White Jr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Why would we go electric for rental?

rental mopeds are not the units that are loud. Loud mopeds are from locals. Not to mention, the electric mopeds are far more unsafe. They have more torque, setting people up for an accident. They are also easily jail broke. You can make them faster illegally much easier.

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 4:40:56 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robin Thorsen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I stand in opposition to SB 2740, requiring companies that rent or sell mopeds to only use electric mopeds.

This is not a feasible expectation to have for these companies as there is not a good enough solution yet to rent electric mopeds on the island. There are electric alternatives that are great for riding around in town, and there are already companies that offer this. However, the need for renters and owners to travel further (northshore, east side, west side) requires there be better solutions to get electric mopeds there. They currently don't have the range or charge time to make such a trip feasible. Gas powered mopeds are still much more economical and environmentally friendly compared to cars and big vans/busses when considering gas mileage, and wear and tear on the road. Not to mention how important this cheaper form of mobility is for working class that uses it to get to and from work, school, home, grocery store, etc. in a place where parking is not the easiest and mopeds are quick and efficient at getting around and parking securely. Give companies more time to find better solutions, or help provide solutions with battery stations where you can swap batteries for compatible mopeds to make it easy to navigate around the island.

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 4:42:14 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Baron	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The proposal set forth by Hawaii SB2470, which mandates all moped rental shops to exclusively rent electric bikes, is an idea that warrants closer examination. While the intention to promote environmentally friendly options is admirable, there are several practical and logistical challenges that render this requirement absurd.

First and foremost, the current lack of insurance coverage for electric mopeds poses a significant hurdle. As of now, insurance companies have not developed policies that specifically cater to electric mopeds. Without a designated writer for these vehicles, it becomes nearly impossible to adequately insure them. This crucial aspect must be addressed before any widespread adoption of electric mopeds can be mandated.

Furthermore, the absence of comprehensive information regarding the horsepower of electric bikes is another concerning factor. The variability in power output among different models makes it difficult to establish standardized regulations and ensure a safe riding experience. Instances have been reported where certain electric bikes can reach speeds of up to 70 miles per hour, posing significant risks to both riders and pedestrians. Without accurate and reliable horsepower data, it becomes challenging to enforce appropriate safety measures and protect individuals on the roads.

Contrary to popular belief, traditional gas-powered mopeds can also be insured. They are subject to regulations based on weight, horsepower, and noise emission levels, ensuring a greater sense of safety and accountability. In comparison, electric mopeds, with their limited range of approximately 25 to 30 miles per charge, present their own set of concerns. This limited range can pose challenges, particularly in areas where charging infrastructure may not be readily available, potentially leaving riders stranded.

Moreover, the significant cost disparity between electric mopeds and traditional mopeds cannot be overlooked. Entry-level electric mopeds typically come with a price tag of around \$4000, significantly higher than the average of \$1000 for entry-level gas-powered mopeds. This elevated cost presents a significant barrier, hindering access for many students and low-income households who may rely on the affordability of traditional mopeds as a means of transportation.

It is imperative to strike a balance between environmental considerations and practicality. While the transition to electric transportation is undoubtedly desirable, it must be sustainable and feasible for all individuals in society. Instead of an outright requirement, a more incremental approach that encourages the adoption of electric mopeds, alongside supporting the development of insurance coverage, charging infrastructure, and cost reduction initiatives, would be a more reasonable and inclusive path forward.

In conclusion, Hawaii SB2470's proposal to mandate electric moped rentals in all rental shops requires further examination and reconsideration. We must navigate the complexities of insurance coverage, horsepower data, limited range, and affordability concerns to ensure a fair and practical transition towards sustainable transportation options that benefit all segments of the population.

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 8:52:19 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
E Yancey	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This intereferes with many businesses and will cost the state more money than it is worth in lawsuits.

Subject: Urgent Opposition to SB2740, HB1890, and HB2112: Protecting Access to Gas-Powered Moped Rentals in Hawaii

Dear Honored representatives,

I hope this letter finds you well amidst your busy schedules. My name is Corbin, a Psychology student a Student in Hawaii on my way to my doctoral program, and I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 2740 (SB2740), as well as House Bills 1890 (HB1890) and 2112 (HB2112). This letter is a plea for reconsideration and an expression of concern regarding the expedited nature with which these measures are being pushed through.

As someone who finds parallels between life and navigation, I appreciate the importance of foresight and planning. It has come to my attention that these bills are being fast-tracked with minimal notice, which raises significant concerns about the lack of transparency and opportunity for public input.

In critical thinking, intentional legislation should be crafted with thorough consideration, allowing for input from the diverse voices of our community (Johnson, 2010)¹. The hurried pace at which these measures are being advanced may unintentionally neglect the perspectives of those most affected—the students, low-income individuals, and marginalized populations relying on gas-powered mopeds.

Quoting Steven Kotler's "The Rise of Superman," we understand that achieving optimal outcomes requires careful preparation and consideration of potential consequences (Kotler, 2014)². The rushed nature of these measures contradicts the principles of mindful governance, where all stakeholders should be given sufficient time to voice their concerns and suggestions.

Moreover, the lack of a comprehensive public discourse on these matters may hinder the cultivation of empathy and compassion, fundamental elements in creating laws that genuinely serve the entire community (Nhat Hanh, 2002)³. Transparency and open dialogue are essential to fostering trust between citizens and their representatives.

In my context, as someone who works with autistic children across over half the island, my gas-powered moped serves as my only means of transportation. The nature of my work requires me to be flexible and responsive, often navigating various locations to provide support and guidance for these children. Any disruption in my ability to travel efficiently would impact on my work and, more importantly, hinder the critical assistance these children rely on.

In the broader context, these measures collectively challenge the public's right to voice themselves on issues that directly impact their lives. It is imperative to underscore the importance of public knowledge and participation in matters of legislative significance. Measures such as HB1890, HB2112, and SB2740 not only affect gas mopeds but also challenge the fundamental right of the public to have a voice in decisions that shape their communities.

As public officials, your duty is not only to represent but also to hear the concerns and needs of your constituency. In the spirit of fairness and inclusivity, I respectfully request a reconsideration

of the timeline for these measures. Providing ample notice and allowing for more extensive public input will ensure that the legislation aligns with the diverse needs and perspectives of our community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I trust that your commitment to serving the people of Hawaii will guide a more thoughtful and inclusive legislative process.

Sincerely,

Corbin Gerard

Footnotes

1. Johnson, S. (2010). *Where Good Ideas Come From*. Amazon | Apple Books [↔](#)
2. Kotler, S. (2014). *The Rise of Superman*. Amazon | Apple Books [↔](#)
3. Nhat Hanh, T. (2002). *The Heart of the Buddha's Teaching*. Amazon | Apple Books [↔](#)

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 12:43:52 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kiana King-Seabra	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Kiana King-Seabra. I am very opposed to this bill. There are lots of local moped rental businesses. It will negatively effect their whole income. Places like that will go out of business and for some, it's their whole lives.

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 7:22:44 AM

Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brent L Genovese	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Doing so we'll most likely price out some of the local shop owners and rental services that currently exist with commercial prices on electric mopeds and it's definitely not due to emission production of a moped which is near none compared to the rental cars they allow on this island

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 4:14:17 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joseph LaFata	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha! REQUEST...OPPOSE SB2740

I'm a proud Hawaii resident since 2018.

I own a gas Moped (49cc) and I drive it EVERYWHERE!

To work, store, mall, beach, lua's, etc

Our State of Hawaii represents many. many Tourists!

The Hawaii Economy depends on Tourists; DO NOT discourage them when they arrive and not allow them to rent a perfectly safe gas Moped!

It's FUN!

Try it sometimes!

PLEASE OPPOSE SB2740!

Mahalo!

Keep Smiling :)

Joey LaFata

LATE

SB-2740

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 7:33:33 AM
Testimony for TCA on 2/8/2024 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gary Wellen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Scooters are one of the few inexpensive means of transportation available to many citizens. They are also fuel efficient and easy to park. Batteries will be the next pollution hazard we will be unable to deal with. Get it a rest and stop contolling everyone. Don't make it more expensive to live on this island than it already is.