



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

February 10, 2023  
2:00 P.M.  
State Capitol Conference Rm 325 & Teleconference

**H.B. 1111**  
**RELATING TO PROTECTIVE DEVICES FOR MOTORCYCLES, MOTOR**  
**SCOOTERS, AND MOPEDS**

House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports H.B. 1111** which requires operators and passengers of motorcycles, motor scooters, to wear a helmet secured by a chin strap. Requires operators of a moped to wear a helmet with a chin strap.

In 2021, according to Hawaii's state data, there were 33 motorcyclist, motor scooter, and moped deaths in Hawaii. This is a 45 percent increase compared to the previous year, which had 18 fatalities. Sixty four percent, 21 of the 33 riders, were reported as not wearing helmets at the time of their crash.

A 2014 study published in the Journal Trauma Acute Care Surgery looked at outcomes among helmeted and unhelmeted motorcycle and moped operators treated for injuries in Hawaii hospitals and found that unhelmeted riders also had an adjusted odds of a fatal injury that was more than double that of helmeted riders. Similarly, the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration also estimates that motorcycle helmets reduce fatalities by 37 percent.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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OUR REFERENCE

ST-TK

February 10, 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. 1111, Relating to Protective Devices for Motorcycles,  
Motor Scooters, and Mopeds

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

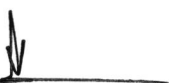
The HPD supports House Bill No. 1111, Relating to Protective Devices for  
Motorcycles, Motor Scooters, and Mopeds.


The HPD supports this bill that would require both operators and passengers of  
motorcycles and motor scooters to wear a helmet with a chin strap and operators of  
mopeds to wear a helmet with a chin strap. All measures that contribute to motor vehicle  
safety and operations help to prevent critical injuries and fatalities.

The HPD urges you to support House Bill No. 1111, Relating to Protective Devices  
for Motorcycles, Motor Scooters, and Mopeds. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

Sincerely,

  
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Arthur J. Logan  
Chief of Police

  
Stason Tanaka, Acting Major  
Traffic Division

**HB-1111**

Submitted on: 2/9/2023 11:05:54 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/10/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Regina Gregory	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a very experienced moped rider. Hearing and peripheral vision are very important to avoiding collisions with cars. Helmets obstruct hearing and peripheral vision.