

**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2024**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 1890, RELATING TO NOISE POLLUTION.

BEFORE THE:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

DATE: Thursday, February 8, 2024 **TIME:** 9:30 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 325 and Videoconference

TESTIFIER(S): Anne E. Lopez, Attorney General, or
Marjorie A. Lau, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Lowen and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General (Department) offers the following comments on this bill.

The purpose of the bill is to prohibit retailers from selling or offering for sale any combustion engine-powered moped unless the moped was initially purchased in a consumer transaction before January 1, 2026. The bill provides that the Legislature finds that internal combustion engine mopeds are significant contributors to noise pollution.

Despite the noise impact of combustion engine-powered mopeds, this prohibition may be subject to challenge as a federally preempted emission standard under the federal Clean Air Act (CAA), because the prohibition is effectively based upon the emission characteristics of a moped engine. Article VII, Clause 2, of the U.S. Constitution is commonly referred to as the Supremacy Clause and establishes that the federal constitution, and federal law generally, take precedence over state laws, and even state constitutions.

The federal CAA expressly prohibits states from regulating the control of emissions from motor vehicles. Specifically, section 209(a) of the CAA provides that:

No State or any political subdivision thereof shall adopt or attempt to enforce any standard relating to the control of emissions from new motor vehicles or new motor vehicle engines subject to this part. No State shall require certification, inspection, or any other approval relating to the

control of emissions from any new motor vehicle or new motor vehicle engine as condition precedent to the initial retail sale, titling (if any), or registration of such motor vehicle, motor vehicle engine, or equipment.

42 U.S.C. §7543(a).

The CAA defines motor vehicle as “any self-propelled vehicle designed for transporting persons or property on a street or highway.” See 42 U.S.C. §7550(2). Under this definition, a moped is considered a motor vehicle.

A state prohibition of sale of combustion engine-powered mopeds could be considered as effectively representing a mandate that only zero-emission electric mopeds can be sold. Such a mandate is an emission standard not allowed under the CAA. In American Auto. Mfrs. Ass’n. v. Cahill, the United States Second Circuit Court of Appeals addressed a state’s mandate that a specified percentage of cars sold by a manufacturer in any model year be zero-emission vehicles (ZEV). The court in that case found that “the ZEV sales requirement must be considered a standard ‘relating to the control of emissions’” and “a requirement that a particular percentage of vehicle sales be ZEVs has no purpose other than to effect a general reduction in emissions”. American Auto. Mfrs. Ass’n. v. Cahill, 152 F.3d 196, 200 (2d Cir. 1998); see also Ass’n of Int’l Automobile Mfrs., Inc. v. Comm’r, Mass. Dept. of Environmental Protection, 208 F.3d 1, 7 (1st Cir. 2000) (“the ZEV mandates are standards as that term is used in §§ 209 and 177 of the CAA” and “the very purpose and effect of the ZEV mandates is to effect a quantitative reduction in emissions”).

Further, whether the issue is a requirement of a specified percentage of sales for manufacturers of vehicles or prohibiting sales of vehicles, there is still an “attempt to enforce” a “standard relating to the control of emissions” in conflict with the CAA. For purposes of the CAA, it was held that there is no distinction between a requirement that a certain percentage of a manufacturer’s sales volume be of specified emission-level vehicles and a requirement to purchase only vehicles meeting specified pollution standards. The United States Supreme Court has stated:

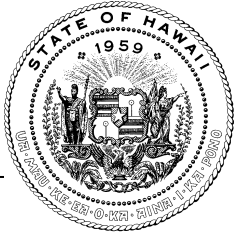
In addition to having no basis in the text of the statute, treating sales restrictions and purchase restrictions differently for pre-emption purposes would make no sense. The manufacturer's right to sell federally approved vehicles is meaningless in the absence of a purchaser's right to buy them.

. . . A command, accompanied by sanctions, that certain purchasers may buy only vehicles with particular emission characteristics is as much an “attempt to enforce” a “standard” as a command, accompanied by sanctions, that a certain percentage of a manufacturer's sales volume must consist of such vehicles. We decline to read into § 209(a) a purchase/sale distinction that is not to be found in the text of §209(a) or the structure of the CAA.”

Engine Mfrs. Ass'n v. South Coast Air Quality Mgmt. Dist., 541 U.S. 246, 255 (2004) (emphasis added). The sales prohibition in this bill essentially limits a purchaser's right to buy combustion engine-powered mopeds.

It could be viewed that this bill's prohibition on the sale of combustion engine-powered mopeds is effectively a mandate that mopeds sold in the State shall be zero emission mopeds. As such, it would effectively be an emission standard preempted by the CAA.

The Department respectfully asks the Committee to consider the preemption concern described above. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Thursday, February 8, 2024
9:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325 and Videoconference

Providing Comments on
HB 1890

RELATING TO NOISE POLLUTION.

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) provides comments on HB 1890 which prohibits retailers from selling or offering for sale certain combustion engine-powered mopeds beginning 1/1/2026.

HSEO supports the key objectives of this bill, in particular the move away from combustion-engine ground transportation to electrified 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 Hawaii 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 \(Act 238 Report\)](#)

HSEO 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 and is researching the availability of models on island. 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 movement from single occupancy vehicles to mopeds in general supports a less energy intensive mode of transportation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 9:37:29 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joe Shimkonis	Mopeds Direct	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

Good Day,

In response to HB 1890 banning the sale of mopeds: I strongly oppose this bill and your claims regarding their decibel levels are dubious and subjective. Several years ago I invited any lawmaker who supports this bill to observe, with me, the actual decibel levels mopeds make, no one took me up on my offer and I will invite you again. If you decide to record the decibel levels of all vehicles in Hawaii you will find the largest violators of noise pollution are: city buses, Waikiki trolleys, UPS trucks, modified automobiles with removed catalytic converters and modified exhausts and motorcycles with modified exhausts. I am certified by the state as a safety check inspector and I am baffled as to why automobile safety check stations do not require a decibel reader when it is automobiles who are the worst violators of noise pollution.

I live on the corner of McCully and Ala Wai and I hear modified motorcycles and cars all night long on weekends but I rarely hear any mopeds. On average, I would say there is a 100 to 1 ratio of loud motorcycles and passenger vehicles when compared to mopeds. As an inspector I get about 2 modified mopeds a month whom I will not even let into my inspection bay unless they de-modify their moped. I am highly against a modified moped but the true problem is with passenger vehicles and motorcycles, there is no comparison.

Thankyou for your time.

Joe Shimkonis
Mopeds Direct
750 Kapahulu Avenue
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 10:19:47 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paul Chinchilla	Kona Scooters	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

My name is Paul Chinchilla. I have presented a practical objection to the proposed bill. However, when I reflect on the term "testimonial," I feel compelled to express my personal gratitude for moped sales in Hawaii. When I moved to the islands over a decade ago, I encountered significant financial challenges. While I expected a higher cost of living, experiencing this reality eroded my confidence in establishing a home. The first financial opportunity I seized was affordable transportation, namely owning a moped. It directly facilitated my employment prospects, enabling me to maintain a nontraditional work schedule inaccessible by public transportation. Moreover, the ongoing cost-effectiveness of owning a moped allowed me to save money, which I subsequently invested in launching a small business in Hawaii. This venture evolved into a moped rental business, providing employment opportunities for other Hawaii residents. While I could share business metrics supporting our company's success, I prefer to emphasize what I consider the most significant aspect: moped ownership enables residents to thrive in our unique economic landscape. Restricting moped sales for our fellow citizens would diminish the ability of lower-income individuals to contribute to our community, hindering progress for those less financially fortunate.

Bill Reads // Internal combustion engine mopeds with factory mufflers are often many times louder than larger motorcycles that have greater engine displacement and robust exhaust baffles.

Correction // We operate a safety station. This is not accurate. The decibel reading of an original manufacturer moped is less than 80 DBS. Furthermore this is reviewed annually at regulated safety stations. The current HB 1753/ Act 200 requires all mopeds to get safety checks and receive a decibel reading at the time of annual inspection. Motorcycles do not require this reading. To be candid. If they did. 80 percent of motorcycles would fail.

Bill Reads // The broad deployment of charging infrastructure is not an impediment to the adoption of electric mopeds because electric moped batteries can be easily removed and charged inside a residence or workplace.

Correction // Charging takes 4-8 hours on a 220 outlet. Most residential and office spaces only have 110 outlets. Often doubling the needed charging time. More importantly the range on these batteries is limited to 30-40 miles. It's unreasonable to expect electric mopeds with such low ranges and long charging times replace a fuel efficient internal combustion moped. These inefficiencies will ultimately lead to less revenue and the elimination of that taxation.

We comprehend the intent of this bill is to rid our roads of modified "louder" mopeds. We are not in disagreement. We equally dislike the noise pollution. However electric vehicles are presently a luxury. They demand a price point out of reach for the moped consumer. And require more time to charge with less range.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit. We truly hope you choose not to pass this bill.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 3:25:50 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nathan Bingham	Hawaiian Style Rentals & Sales	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

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 HB1890. HB1890 prohibits the sale of combustion engine mopeds beginning by 2026.

This bill states that, "Internal combustion engine mopeds with factory mufflers are often many times louder than larger motorcycles that have greater engine displacement and robust exhaust baffles." This is just not true. The decibel reading of a typical stock moped is less than 80 dbs and is reviewed every year at its annual safety check. In 2017 HB 1753/ Act 200 came into law which required all mopeds to get safety checks and receive a decibel reading at the time of annual inspection. Motorcycles aren't even required to get decibel readings, but mopeds are, because there is a small population of individuals that modify their mopeds so they can go faster which make their mopeds significantly louder than a normal moped.

Internal combustion mopeds are a great alternative mode of transportation for local people in the state of Hawaii. They're affordable to purchase and maintain, registration fees are fair, they're easy to park and they get up to 100 miles per gallon. 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.

Also, there are no viable options on the market or infrastructure in place for electric mopeds. This bill states that, "the broad deployment of charging infrastructure is not an impediment to the adoption of electric mopeds because electric moped batteries can be easily removed and charged inside a residence or workplace." The charging still takes hours and the range on these batteries is around 30 miles. It's unreasonable to argue that electric mopeds with such low ranges and long

charging times replace a fuel efficient internal combustion moped. If internal combustion mopeds were prohibited then my existing rental business wouldn't survive. I can't ask someone who is doing a rental to stop and charge their battery for a couple of hours. These inefficiencies will ultimately lead to less sales, eliminate rentals, negatively affect our small local business and our industry.

I understand the intent of this bill is to rid the road of these modified/ "louder" mopeds that cause noise pollution, but this is already happening. The younger generation is instead turning to modified e-bikes, because they are silent, and have very little regulation. We are already seeing a chance and a large reduction of "loud" mopeds without any more regulation.

I do hope you choose to not pass this bill.

I appreciate the consideration.

Aloha!

Nathan Bingham

Hawaiian Style Rentals & Sales

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 9:04:40 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Manabo Sato	Moped Doctors Inc.	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

My name is Manabu "Robert" Sato and I helped cofound and a local business called Moped Doctors which does moped sales and service in 2010. I am also a moped safety inspector.

We at Moped Doctors strongly oppose this bill HB1890 which proposes the elimination of nw gas powered moped sales in Hawai'i as of January 1, 2026.

Electric mopeds are NOT a complete replacement for gas powered mopeds for most Hawai'i moped users. They may be slightly quieter but overall they cost more (at least two to as much as four fold) , there is way less technical support infrastructure, they have way more down time (three hours to charge to run one hour), Plus they have their own unique cons like lithium battery explosions (which has caused outright emoped/ebike bans worldwide like New York City, Paris France and more) , landfill decay disposal of lithium battery waste, etc0>

Electric mopeds should be cosidered an IN ADDITION TO, NOT a REPLACEMENT for Gas powered mopeds.

I do moped safety inspections and electric mopeds account for less then one percent of the thousands I do a year.

Emopeds are only slightly quieter, on average about 10 db less then new gas powered stock mopeds.

The moped safety inspection program has been overall a success. As the first line of defense against louder mopeds (damaged, modiiied etc) , we have helped eliminate a lot of that problem over the years. And every year there is less as we are seeing the trend of outlaw moped modifiers switching over to ironically modified electrical bikes/cycles/mopeds, which are quieter but just as hazardous to the public in their own way. If a fast cycle is coming at you would you rather hear it or have it come at you silently? That's a big question to be answered.

The noise issue (which is going down all the time) can be addressed in other ways besides eliminating the sell of gas powered mopeds. Most new gas powered mopeds are quiet , ecologically friendly four strokes. They make a minimum of traffic noise. There are only 25000 registered mopeds in Hawaii. Car and motorcycle safety inspections don't have a sound/noise measuring standard like mopeds do. There are 1.2 million cars and nearly 40,000 motorcycles in Hawaii. To make it more fair, reasonable and equal, we would recommend the consideration of adding on to car and motorcycle and other motor vehicle inspections a noise/sound standard .

That would help reduce noise pollution from traffic even more than any banning of new gas mopeds ever would.

Also, have Hawaii Law enforcement enforce a loud traffic/motor vehicle campaign in a prolonged , consistent manner . There are current laws such as disturbing the peace that may go to helping charge loud vehicles of EVERY type.

The eliinatio of new gas powered moped sales would also devastate and put out of business scores of long time local businesses (including ours), elimnate hundreds of jobs and take multi millions of dollars out of Hawaii's economy. .

We oppose this bill as it would hurt Hawaii's overall community and economy rather than help it. And there are alternative means to address not just moped noise pollution from traffic but ALL motor vehicle pollutioin which dwarfs anything created by the gas powered mopeds. Eliminating an already quiet type of moped is not the solution. And in fact would cause a lot more problems than it would solve.

Thank you for allowing me to give testimony.

Mahalo,

Manabu "Robert" Sato

GM/Head Safety Inspector Moped Doctors

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 10:43:22 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
joel pena	moped garage	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

HB 1890

Ladies and gentlemen,

Thank you for letting me address a matter of utmost importance to our community – House Bill 1890. While acknowledging the need for progressive environmental measures, I stand before you to express my strong opposition to this legislation, particularly its provision that prohibits retailers from selling or offering for sale certain combustion engine-powered mopeds beginning January 1, 2026.

This prohibition, if enacted, raises concerns about the impact on both our local economy and individual freedoms. Small businesses like myself that rely on the sale of such mopeds could face severe economic repercussions, leading to potential job losses and economic downturns in our community. Moreover, the restriction encroaches upon the freedom of choice for our citizens, limiting their options and autonomy in selecting transportation methods that best suit their needs.

While we recognize the importance of transitioning towards cleaner and more sustainable alternatives, it is crucial to balance these goals with the economic well-being and personal liberties of our community members. I urge all stakeholders to reconsider the stringent provisions of HB1890 and work towards a more balanced solution that addresses environmental concerns without unduly burdening our local businesses and restricting individual choices.

Thank you for your attention, and let us strive for a more inclusive and thoughtful approach to environmental policy-making.



**TESTIMONY OF TINA YAMAKI, PRESIDENT
RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII
February 8, 2024
Re: HB 1890 Relating to Mopeds**

Good morning, Chair Lowen and members of the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection. I am Tina Yamaki, President of the Retail Merchants of Hawaii and I appreciate this opportunity to testify.

The Retail Merchants of Hawaii was founded in 1901, RMH is a statewide, not for profit trade organization committed to the growth and development of the retail industry in Hawaii. Our membership includes small mom & pop stores, large box stores, resellers, luxury retail, department stores, shopping malls, local, national, and international retailers, chains, and everyone in between.

While we understand the want for this type of measure, we are respectfully opposed to HB 1890 Relating Mopeds. This measure prohibits retailers from selling or offering for sale certain combustion engine-powered mopeds beginning 1/1/2026.

While there are electric mopeds on the market, the technology still needs to be worked on and is not yet comparable to combustion powered mopeds. The **E-mopeds are good for short distances as they are unable to hold long charges** with a charge typically lasting about 1 hour. This may be a **hinderance for those on the neighbor islands who use mopeds to get around as everything is more spread out** unlike in urban Honolulu where everything is relatively nearby to each other.

There are some e-mopeds on the market that are a few hundred dollars, but it is our understanding that they do not last long, constantly have repair issues and can be dangerous in some situations. The more reliable ones **cost double of that of a combustion powered moped**. And as we see many college students on a fixed income use moped to get around town and to and from work. Many would not be able to afford an E-moped.

In addition, **E-mopeds do have a weight limit on those who ride them** and are prone to damage if used by someone overweight and could cause a fatality.

Furthermore, the efficiency of a **personal e-moped reduces after the first 2 years and typically have an average lifespan of 300-500 full charge cycles or approximately 3 years. In comparison the average lifespan of moped is between 7 and 10 years**. Of course, we acknowledge with care and maintenance the lifespan of both types of vehicles can be extended.

We also wonder in a few years, what is going to happen to all those lithium batteries that are used in these e-mopeds who can no longer hold a charge and are discarded. It is our understanding that Hawaii does NOT currently have a recycling for Lithium Batteries. These types of batteries can be prone to overheating and catching fire, especially if damaged or exposed to extreme conditions. This can lead to safety hazards, such as fires or explosions. In addition, we do not want to see them discarded in our landfills as improper disposal of lithium-ion batteries can lead to environmental pollution. If not recycled properly, the chemicals within the batteries can leach into the soil and water, causing harm to ecosystems.

Retailers carry items that the customers want. **This measure would also impose hardship for those retailers, especially for our locally owned businesses, who are unable to comply with the January 2026 deadline**. Not all stores are able to send their combustion powered mopeds outside of Hawaii to a sister store. This would mean that the goods would either have to be sold at loss or trashed. Or have a large inventory of E-

mopeds that no one wants. And like cars, new models come out every year and older ones would be obsolete. This measure has the potential to kill many small locally owned businesses who are already struggling with higher costs of goods, shipping, minimum wage, health insurance and other operating costs

Now is not the time to ban combustion powered mopeds.

We ask that you hold this measure. Mahalo again for this opportunity to testify.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 1/31/2024 7:30:16 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Prohibits

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/2/2024 8:26:36 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ian McKinstry	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Vehemently Oppose HB 1890. This legislation is incredibly short-sighted and ahead of its time.

Combustion-powered mopeds are integral to how the working class of Hawai'i gets to and from work. Visitors to Hawai'i, when renting and riding moped, also get a glance at the interesting lives of our kamaaina and can relate to their commutes back to the mainland in comparison to the two-wheeled commutes of our hardworking Hawaiians.

Currently, authorized electric moped dealers are extremely limited on the island and just as expensive as purchasing a used car. By limiting the sale of combustion powered mopeds you as legislators are restricting the freedoms of our working class kamaaina and making their lives more difficult as they strive to hold down their jobs and pay their taxes. I urge you to defer or drop this bill immediately!

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/2/2024 8:58:33 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/2/2024 10:33:52 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I stand in opposition to HB 1890 because I do not believe that it appropriately addresses the issue that it claims.

The noise pollution issue was already addressed when mopeds were made to be required to pass a safety check, which checks for the appropriate db levels. Enforcement of this regulation is more appropriate than completely removing the cheaper option of transportation. In addition, such a change would cripple businesses that exchange in gas-powered mopeds as electric options are incomparably higher in price. The electric powered mopeds can go nowhere near as far as gas-powered mopeds on a full tank/charge, and there are no easy charge stations littered around the city for modes.

Please do not pass this bill, as it would cause much more harm to locals than help anyone on the islands!

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/2/2024 10:40:28 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha, My name is Fedor. I have been a moped safety inspector and mechanic for nine years in the state of Hawaii. I oppose HB1890 on the premise its claim is misleading and false and would harm a large community that utilizes affordable transportation and the infrastructure that supports it. To start, mopeds are not many times louder than motorcycles and do come with factory-equipped baffles to combat noise pollution as motorcycles do. From the factory, mopeds are no louder and, without modification, many times quieter than a motorcycle. There are already two laws in place to combat the modification and accompanying noise pollution that have been effective but need to be more rigorously enforced. The first would be HRS 291-24, passed in 2009, Prohibiting the modification of mufflers, followed by Act 200, passed in 2016, requiring safety inspections on mopeds and expanding police authority to remove unlawfully modified mopeds from the roadways. As a safety inspector, you are required to take and record a decibel reading of the exhaust, ensuring it is at a safe and nonintrusive level. Mopeds are required to go through this inspection annually. Within a year of Act 200, I saw a drastic decrease in modified mopeds and am finding it increasingly rare to see mopeds that are unlawfully modified. Given time and enforcement, the current laws will prosecute the guilty parties and allow the law-abiding citizens looking for economical transportation to remain unmolested.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/2/2024 11:58:11 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Zakkaiah Knowles	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha. Too many people not only like to ride mopeds as opposed to cars but actually find them more convenient for getting around the island, especially the cities, and parking is so much easier by locking it to a solid object or parking many in one parking spot. These mopeds aren't just noisy "deathtraps" but a lot of people's daily or only form of transportation due to the lessened financial responsibilities of the cheaper mopeds. Getting rid of the mopeds will also cause more problems for people who don't like them too, by causing moped riders to possibly purchase cars, creating even more traffic and even less parking as well as just bad for the environment, when the mopeds can last 100+ miles per gallon of gas while the cars can be less than 15 miles per gallon. Mahalo

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 8:38:01 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tamara Paltin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

support

My name is Kendall I oppose HB1890. I rely on my gas moped for affordable and reliable use. I need it for my day to day. My moped is not louder than the cars and motorcycles. Please do not pass this bill.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 9:29:24 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Arlo Garcia ugalino	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

i oppose the bill and support mopeds. Thank you.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 9:30:48 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Macy Wright	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mopeds are a staple in this community. Without many having access to cars, this form of transportation has helped so many people expand their daily lives, go to school, and work. It wouldn't be right to get rid of these mopeds that have been a huge benefit to so many people.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 10:34:17 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Mopeds come in a vareity of different noise levels, as do cars, motorcycles, people, emergency vehicle sirens, fireworks....

Driving around town, I'm sure you may have noticed that you'll hear a moped before you see one....the noise produced is definitely a safety feature.

Mopeds are also one of the most fuel efficient vehicles on the road. And internal combustion engines with increased technologies are undeniably less taxing on the global environment than shipping the rare-earth metals in batteries around the world multile times.

Solutions to consider:

1. The easiest option is setting dB levels for 'noise pollution' AND ENFORCE THEM. Regardless of source or day of the week. Meters can't be more expensive than the time already spent debating whether or not mopeds should be legal
2. Limit legality of exhaust modifications and engine swapping in mopeds. The two-strokes are the loudest anyways. But then again, you still have to enforce the regulations.
3. Living in town I'm under the impression there is no noise ordinance. If there isn't one, let's talk about that instead. If there is an ordinance, let's just enforce that.

Mahalo!

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 11:00:06 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
S Costlow	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The proposed bill will completely prevent a large number of people from having the ability to purchase affordable and reliable and transportation. This alone is reason enough for my opposition to this bill. In addition, the stated reason for this bill that mopeds are 'too loud' is laughable. Mopeds are no louder than many cars, trucks or motorcycles being driven / ridden all around O'ahu. If you need to hear this for yourself just spend some time in Waikiki. Maybe instead of prohibiting the sale of Mopeds you should instead pass legislation preventing loud aftermarket exhausts on cars, trucks and motorcycles and then actually enforce it. Maybe also do something about all the loud car stereos. While you are at it maybe you can stop all the illegal fireworks being set off year round or maybe do something to stop the feral rosters crowing. I know maybe instead of creating a problem where there are none why dont you do something about the actual problems I listed above.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 8:39:33 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brian A Maslen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill seems very specific to the removal of mopeds from the streets of Hawaii.

As a moped rider for as many years as I have been on Oahu, mopeds have served as inexpensive transportation.

As there are much better ways for our government to fight noise, like Harley Davidson motorcycles, Honda, Yamaha for example.

I believe every committee person should have 30 day mandatory moped ownership and use as everyday transportation to truly understand what you are doing.

I object to the government trying to eliminate mopeds from the streets. Try limiting amounts of cars instead. Parking would improve.

Thank you for your time.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 8:42:19 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I do not think this bill is a good idea. It will make owning a new moped harder and more expensive. Gas-powered mopeds are a cheap and inexpensive option to get around Hawaii. They allow more budget-friendly consumers to get around the island. They are cheaper to repair as well. I just don't think the electric mopeds are there yet for everyday consumers.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 9:19:35 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Calum Sales	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I personally use my moped daily and it gives me much enjoyment. If this measure were to be passed it would mean I would not be able to sell my bike meaning that I would not be able to get at least some of my money back when I eventually get a car and pass on my bike to another person in need of enjoyment.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 9:51:01 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha my name is Tommy Nader. I am a student at HPU and work part time. I require a moped to get to and from school and work and would otherwise not be able to afford transportation. If this bill gets passed I submit that all motorcycles be banned and cars as they are significantly louder than a 50cc moped. Mahalos

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 11:22:56 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
McGruder Skilling	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I am writing as an individual concerned about the potential impact of Bill HB1890. As a resident of Honolulu, I strongly oppose for the following reasons:

- a. its convenience
- b. its efficiency
- c. inexpensive

Purchasing a moped is by far the best decision I've ever made as it is inexpensive compared to a car, not to mention the fuel price as well. I'm so glad I made this purchase as if I had not, I could've been spending more by today with the inflation. It goes the same for the repair of the moped as it does not cost that much compared to a vehicle. Mopeds are cost-efficient and eco-friendly, which we really need. They are also more convenient to commute to and from work. My job relies on transporting documents to and from offices that need their documents as soon as possible and of course, with safety measures of myself and the people around me, I complete my daily tasks on time and that is all thanks to my moped. With a lot of heavy traffic nowadays, along with the high demands of parking spots in downtown, mopeds are very convenient. My moped has really saved myself and my family due its efficiency, its convenience, and the amount of money we get to spent on it.

I appreciate your dedication to public service, and I urge you to reconsider supporting this bill. The well-being of our community depends on thoughtful decision-making.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 11:24:38 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cecilia Kane-Recinos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Banning the sale of gas-powered mopeds will be detrimental to many small businesses and their employees. I am currently employed at a moped shop that sells and rents gas-powered mopeds. If this bill were to pass, I would be out of a job. I think it's important to consider all those who would be negatively affected by this bill.

By choosing to live in an urban area you will inevitably be exposed to noise pollution, and eliminating the sale of gas-powered mopeds is not going to solve that issue.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 11:32:54 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Matthew Mathis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 11:57:39 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brandon Haught-Aliotti	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I oppose HB801 on the premise its claim is misleading and false and would harm a large community that utilises affordable transportation and the infrastructure that supports it. To start, mopeds are NOT many times louder than motorcycles and DO come with factory equipped baffles to combat noise pollution as motorcycles do. From the factory mopeds are no louder, and without modification, many times quieter than a motorcycle. There are already two laws in place to combat the modification and accompanying noise pollution that have been effective, but need to be more rigorously enforced. The first would be HRS 291-24 passed in 2009 Prohibiting the modification of mufflers followed by Act 200 passed in 2016 requiring safety inspections on mopeds and expanding police authority to remove unlawfully modified mopeds from the roadways. Given time and enforcement the current laws will prosecute the guilty parties and allow the law abiding citizens looking for economic transportation to remain unmolested.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 12:04:40 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
CHRISTIAN VINIEGAS	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Who This May Concern,

My Name is Chris V. , Im 35yrs old and a Maikiki Resident and I strongly oppose this Bill HB1890 on Stop Sales of Gas Mopeds in this State. Mopeds for the islands is a must for transportation for those that need a affordable way of transportion for school, work and daily life. The noise output is not that loud out of a 50cc moped with comes with all the new models and sales. To compare noise level on a scale, there are cars and motocyrces louder then mopeds and these vehicle comes stock with loud exhausts and I should know, I work a Car Dealer and these new Performance Models come with loud exhaust out of the factory, and why dont you stop the sales of cars and motocyrces then? Imagine if this bill would be passed and there will be more cars on our busy congested streets, I bet there would much more accidents, And for Electric Mopeds, I seen those lithium batteries catch fire while charging. Ive seen some even smoke up when there in use on the streets, how is that a safer alternative? its not easy putting out a Battery Fire, for example Tesla's, you seen those videos of those catching on fire. Fire Departments Struggle to put out those flames; in some cases just let it burn itself out. With this statement I state my Claim on HB1890.

Aloha,

Chris V.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 12:08:18 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennai Dreget	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a college student at the university of Hawaii. I have a moped out of necessity. I don't have the money for a car or the time to rely on public transportation. I see this bill as an excuse to get rid of mopeds and businesses that sell/ repair them. Mopeds do not make half as much noise as a motorcycle or a car. Yet this bill chooses to use mopeds as the scapegoat to destroy yet another local business. If this bill passes you will not only be taking away business from the people, you'll be hurting the most convenient form of transportation for most. This bill only hurts residents. It should not pass

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 12:52:39 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

My name is Kiana King-Seabra and I oppose the HB1890 bill. I rely on my gas moped to get to and from work, to and from school, and for errands likes groceries. It is the most reliable and cheap form of transportation for me. Without my moped I wouldn't even be able to have the job I do now. I work at Dave and Busters so by the time I get off work the buses aren't even running anymore. Gas mopeds are NOT louder than cars or motorcycles by any means. Please don't pass this bill. It will negatively impact all college students with mopeds and hardworking people with mopeds.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 2:32:38 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joelle Seashell	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mopeds are a reliable, inexpensive way for taxpayers to get around. Mopeds allow for people who are crushed under the rest weight of the economy to go to their place of work and make money. Once again we have another bill that makes people under a lower socioeconomic status suffer. trash this bill.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 2:42:49 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Allen Rideout	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I use my gas moped as my transportation errand daily. I oppose the bill HB1890 .

Mahalo!

Allen

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 2:48:42 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose because mopeds are not loud. 50cc isn't making any noise. I use my moped for work. I delivery for Uber and doordash. This would make me lose my job. I respectfully oppose. This is the cheapest mode of transportation with the double digit inflation only rising. Our economy is not doing good and this only would make it worse for our people of Hawaii.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 3:10:16 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Edge peralta	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

No need for this measure i use mopeds to ride to school and work i need it

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 4:25:53 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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. Hawaii already has rolling blackouts for lack of power, adding more electric vehicles is not going to make this any better.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 4:27:00 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Joy Ryba	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I NEED my gas moped to get to work and around town. I RELY on it so much for it is the most convinient, affordable mode of transaportation for me, expecially since I have a low income paying job and can barely afford getting around by bus. I also live right next to a free way and I know a loud sound when I hear it. It is NOT louder than cars that have modified exhausts sounds and Motorcycles (who's safety inspections don't even measure sound standards unlike mopeds!) always wake us up in the middle of the night. Please DO NOT PASS THIS LAW! I HEAVILY RELY AND NEED my gas moped for my daily use and personal transportation! Mahalo.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 4:36:30 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Arthur Odango	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Members of the Legislative Assembly,

As a hawaii resident who is passionate about the benefits of moped ownership and the ease it brings to the cost of living here, I am writing to express my vehement opposition to the proposed law that seeks to restrict or ban moped sales in Hawaii. As a resident of this beautiful state, I am deeply concerned about preserving the accessibility and freedom that mopeds provide in our transportation landscape.

Mopeds are not merely recreational vehicles; they are a lifeline for many individuals and families across Hawaii. In a state where the cost of living is high and public transportation options are limited, mopeds offer an affordable and practical means of getting around, especially for those who cannot afford or do not have access to cars.

For countless people, including students, low-income earners, and seniors, mopeds represent independence and mobility. They enable us to commute to work, attend school, access essential services, and connect with our communities without the burden of exorbitant transportation costs.

Moreover, mopeds are environmentally friendly alternatives to gas-guzzling vehicles, contributing to the reduction of carbon emissions and helping to preserve Hawaii's natural beauty and fragile ecosystem.

Banning or restricting moped sales would disproportionately impact those who rely on them the most, exacerbating inequalities and limiting opportunities for socioeconomic mobility. It would force individuals into financial hardship, restrict their freedom of movement, and further isolate communities that are already marginalized.

Instead of hurting the lives of moped repair shop, owners, and overall progress, we should be exploring ways to continue helping the people of hawaii.

In conclusion, I urge you to consider the profound impact that banning or restricting moped sales would have on the lives of countless Hawaiians. Let us work together to protect and preserve this vital mode of transportation, ensuring that all residents have the opportunity to travel safely, affordably, and sustainably throughout our beautiful state.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Mahalo,

Arthur Odango
arthurodango@gmail.com

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 5:01:54 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

On an already overpopulated yet eco-friendly island, the banning of gas powered mopeds is absolutely ludicrous. Not only is it blatantly obvious that noise pollution is not the real concern here; as lifted 4 runners with no muffler, motorcycles, and airplanes riddle the island and vastly subdue the sound of measly mopeds, but banning of such vehicles not only encourages highway traffic (which is already bad) but also caters against the needs of O'ahu's lower class citizens and slows down their only other form of transportation, the bus. Do what is right, CCOH. Don't move in the opposite direction and force residents to switch to other options that have much more extreme carbon footprints than before.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 5:18:09 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Let us keep our mopeds

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 5:23:53 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Makayla Harden	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The banning of gas powered mopeds greatly inconveniences a large population on the island. Not only are mopeds owned by many college students and lower class citizens but they also help reduce traffic. They are better for the environment and allow people to get around without the excessive amount of cars and traffic on the roads.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 5:29:10 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Katherine Key	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mopeds use only 80mpg, which is significantly better for the environment than cars. Mopeds also save space for parking, as they are compact. Not to mention, they are a great solution to the horrendous traffic issue, which consists most of the gas-monster cars.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 5:33:48 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sydney Pullin	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In regards to the proposed Bill "HB1890" it is undeniably wrong and should not be passed. As a student at University of Hawaii Manoa a moped is by far the most efficient and cost effective transportation. To own, maintain, and park a motorized vehicle such as a car is not a affordable or a reasonable alternative. By passing this bill you are not only cutting off reliable transportation for students but also residents of Hawaii whose only means of transportation is via Moped.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 5:33:58 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

As a college student a moped is a super convenient way of travel. I am able to get places much more efficiently and is more prince affordable and useful for where I am located. For this reason I'm not supportive of this bill.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 6:30:14 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Atzin Martinez	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose the passing of this bill as a resident and student living on Oahu. The use of mopeds is important to me as it is the only way I'm able to commute too and from school and work. I work to pay for my schooling and without my mopped i would have to drop out of school. I aak that this bill not be passed as it would directly affect many people in a negative manner.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 6:48:30 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rheana Salvador	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Rheana and I fully oppose Bill HB1890. I rely a lot on gas mopeds to assist with daily errands and benefit from moped gas rates. I am also in the process of paying college loans. Having a moped, as an affordable means of transportation, supports my goals in minimizing financial debt while maintaining two of my personal businesses. In my opinion, I believe gas mopeds are not louder than cars and motorcycles. A large percentage of my friend group depend on mopeds to get around and enjoy the simplicities of Hawai'i living. Mopeds are an asset for numerous young adults to thrive independently. Respectfully, I plead this bill to NOT pass.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 7:03:22 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alexander Zuong	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Alexander Zuong. I oppose the HB1890 bill because gas powered mopeds is my primary transportation. My apartment does not have any parking spaces assigned to my unit, the only way I can get to work and afford rent on Oahu is by moped. I believe mopeds do not cause as much noise pollution as cars and motorcycles because moped engines do not compare to how loud either of the larger vehicles can rev their engine as they commonly do in my area late at night. Please do not pass this bill, many students rely heavily on mopeds and it negatively impact the enrollment of students at Hawaii universities.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 7:23:18 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brady Johnson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

There are many reasons why this bill is wrong. Firstly, mopeds offer a cheap, reliable mode of transportation. As a resident who struggles with the cost of living, and with an absolute need for a car or moped, the moped is the only way I can stay financially afloat. Secondly, the logic behind the "noise pollution" does not make sense. While mopeds do make some noise, many cars are much much louder. Some don't have mufflers, some have been modified with new exhausts, and some play their music with huge speakers to the extent where you can hear it from long distances. If you put it in perspective, the small, 500-100cc engines generate far less noise than any engine in a car with a modified exhaust system. Mopeds simply do not contribute a large factor in the noise pollution of motor vehicles. Thirdly, mopeds create a huge industry that many people rely on. Whether it's the sales of mopeds, repairs, renting them out to visitors, or importint them, countless people rely on mopeds and it would leave them unemployed. This would create a large influx of people looking for jobs, which could wreak havoc on the economic climate of the island. Not to mention the tax revenue that moped sales, repairs, and renting brings to the island. A final consideration to keep in mind is parking. We all know parking, especially in Honolulu, is scarce. Moped travelers bring lots of business to the city, and if all those travelers had to use cars, it would over load the city, further contributing to congestion and gridlock, which results in accidents and fatalities.

Regarding H.B.1890 - Oppose

Another year has gone by and a lot of things have changed. But it seems one thing that seems will never change is the legislature's desire to eliminate mopeds with internal combustion engines (I.C.E.). And the questions remain as to why only mopeds? Why not one-, two-, three-, and four-cylinder motorcycles, or all cars and trucks on the road? The notion that mopeds are significant contributors to noise pollution is totally ludicrous and biased. Admittedly, there is a very minute amount of mopeds on the road that are excessively noisy, but aren't there laws on the books that are designed to address that issue? Why are I.C.E. mopeds being singled out?

To eliminate I.C.E. mopeds from being sold would unfairly cause the moped industry in Hawaii to collapse. This in turn would cause so much loss of income for the businesses as well as loss of jobs. It would also cause hardship on many people who can only afford to buy mopeds. A great majority of people who ride mopeds to get to their jobs won't even be able to pay the extra cost of owning an electric moped. I'm sure a lot of you making these laws can't relate to their hardships, but it is just a harsh reality of life. Just ask any dealer of these I.C.E. mopeds, and they will tell you the same thing.

It just totally baffles me as to why the legislature's sentiment is so anti-I.C.E. mopeds. As you can see, I adamantly oppose this bill.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 7:37:40 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christian Kahookaulana	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Whom It May Concern,

New mopeds on the island have always been beneficial for people to get around, who do not want to rely on the public transportation system. If you prohibit the sales of new mopeds, combustion engine powered or not, people who rely on this will not be able to get to work, or the places they need to get to. Electric powered is not the way to go, where will we all charge our electric powered transporations?

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 7:42:26 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
morgan charles	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a dedicated DoorDash driver who relies on a moped for efficient and timely deliveries, I am deeply concerned about the potential consequences of the proposed bill aiming to ban mopeds due to noise concerns. This mode of transportation has become an integral part of my daily routine, allowing me to navigate the diverse terrains and traffic challenges of Hawaii effectively.

The financial implications of such a ban are significant for me, as the affordability and fuel efficiency of my moped contribute directly to my ability to sustain myself as a college student at the University of Hawaii. The earnings from DoorDash not only support my education by covering tuition fees but also play a crucial role in meeting basic living expenses, including housing, food, and other necessities.

The flexibility and maneuverability that a moped provides are essential for meeting the demands of the gig economy, especially in the context of food delivery services. Banning mopeds would not only limit my income but also hinder my ability to provide prompt and reliable service to customers, potentially jeopardizing my standing as a DoorDash driver.

It's important to consider alternative solutions to address noise concerns without outright banning mopeds, such as implementing noise reduction measures or encouraging the use of quieter models. This approach would allow me and others in similar situations to continue our work, contributing not only to our own financial stability but also to the local economy by supporting businesses and providing a valuable service to the community.

In conclusion, I urge policymakers to take a comprehensive and balanced approach that considers the livelihoods of individuals like myself who rely on mopeds for their daily work. By finding solutions that address noise concerns while allowing for the continued use of mopeds, we can ensure a more sustainable and equitable outcome for all stakeholders involved

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 7:46:54 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brendan McGraw	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mopeds are an effective way to get around, and this bill is regressive in its impact.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 8:07:26 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
mackenzie burtleson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I believe that this bill will negatively affect the citizens of Hawaii in many different ways from increased traffic and less transportation for individuals who cannot afford cars. A great benefit of Hawaii is that having a moped is so very feasible and a great affordable way to get around and if this bill passes people will lose transportation.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 8:09:05 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am a student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and solely rely on my moped as transportation to and from class. I am unable to purchase a car as that is too much of a financial burden for me to take on.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 8:18:47 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brooklynn Greer	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Banning these moped will only increase traffic due to the influx of cars being purchased for transportation. Additionally college student in town use these as a main source of transportation because they are compact and affordable, without them traffic will increase, more cars may be on the road, and potentially people will have to give up jobs they can no longer commute to.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 8:20:05 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Morgen York	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill would be terrible for the environment, local businesses and people who cannot afford cars.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 8:21:14 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lauren Vivona	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is the only affordable and sustainable way to commute for my education and job. It is my only mode of transportation I can rely on.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 9:28:48 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sierra Rodriguez	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mopeds are a huge impact on the community here. There are a huge population that don't have the funds to buy a vehicle. Not only that, traffic gets crazy and taking away mopeds will just add to the fire creating more havoc and vehicular accidents. I myself use a moped for transportation and a vast majority on campuses do as well. It is much better for the economy and for the people who love this land. Please take that into consideration.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 9:47:18 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chadwinn Domingo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Chadwinn Domingo,

I oppose Bill HB1890 which will prohibit moped dealers here locally to sell gas engine mopeds for the reasons being mopeds are too loud. Which I find totally untrue. I am a former long time owner of several mopeds both stock and modified. A stock unmodified moped is relatively quiet compared to other gas engine means of transportation like motorcycles, cars, trucks etc. though I do recognize that a modified moped will generate a great amount of exhaust noise, but comparing that modified moped to a new Harley motorcycle, a new SVT Mustang, a new Dodge Hellcat Challenger or even a TRD Toyota Tundra which are all factory option sold vehicles, a stock moped or even subtle modified moped is still noticeably quieter.

To some local residents here it's their only means of transportation, either to work, to school or just to get around daily. Some may find a car or other larger vehicle as useless for them being that they only travel short distances, where a moped would suit them better for their needs. Some may have had a run in with bad luck with state laws and had their license suspended or revoked so their only means of transportation is a moped. For these people a moped is golden to them especially to our college students here that commute from home to class or class to class.

I know you say well there's bikes and electric bikes, scooters which has almost no noise at all, but not everyone can afford a \$1000 - \$3000 electric bike.

a new moped is way cheaper and less cost in maintenance to keep running.

My overall take on this Bill HB1890 is it wasn't well thought through considering we are a tourist state, yes a tourist state..... so you want tourist not to rent mopeds either? Before you pass this Bill take a good look at other Gas engine transportation and really think of how you have compared and concluded that of a stock moped is louder.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 9:53:36 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sofia Smith	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Sofia Smith, I am opposing the HB1890 bill. My moped is my main transportation around. It makes my life way more convenient, and as a collage student I do not have the money to afford the car. Mopeds are the same volume of a car and a motorcycle. Please do not pass this bill it will severely affect me and many other people in our day to day tasks.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 10:58:56 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Luke Ryba	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I work for the Hawaii Convention Center as a full time employee, with duties directly associated with Hawaii Transit Authority. For me to go to work, often 5 to 7 days a week, it is crucial to commute using my moped. It is an economically sound mode of transportation, affordable (we all know everybody in Hawai'i get better from save more money), and convenient for someone like me to get around town and live my life with a healthy work/life balance.

The mopeds I ride (I have owned three) always have up to date registration and safety check. Safety inspections require sound checks, that the vehicle runs at the legal limit of 50cc. Some people choose to customize their vehicles, mostly with motorcycles and cars, creating louder engines. I find the problem of too much sound is with the motorcycles and cars (I live right next to H-1, the loudest vehicles are always these).

Mopeds are for the local people, to have affordable and convenient way to commute. It is important to allow access to new mopeds, to ensure the safety of our community. Without a moped, I am unsure if I could afford the forced expenses (buying a car), and continue my role at HCC helping events run smoothly for community & visitors.

Keep Hawaii safe by allowing sale of new mopeds, keep Hawaii happy with the Aloha from understanding how important this method of transit is. Mahalo

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 11:12:54 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jaqui Coates	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Being a student, these mopeds are utilized to the maximal potential by everyone who attends the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Getting to class on time to ensure a good education, groceries become a lot easier and more convenient getting to and from places. Having your own transportation is a sense of freedom. Being a student, mental health is a big struggle in this community and to help battle this, people go to the beach and join clubs and other communities to do so with the help of their mopeds.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 11:19:27 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Mopeds contribute to increased traffic congestion and safety hazards on our already crowded roads.

noise pollution

Safety risks associated with mopeds, particularly for inexperienced riders, are alarming. Consider the fact many moped riders in Honolulu are inexperienced college students from the mainland that just need a way around. They are often inconsiderate of the rules of the road and Hawaii road etiquette, and they seem to think they can ride them anywhere they want. Mopeds are also rented out to tourists and that's a disaster as well. On the North Shore tourists renting mopeds from Turtle Bay cause long congestion lines on Kamehameha Highway.

Moped emissions are also worse than those of cars as their two stroke engines are the main source of fine particles and various contaminants found in the air.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 11:32:55 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sophia Hilton	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I feel that it is ignorant of the state to fail to realize that the primary users of mopeds and similar forms of transportation are young adults who cannot yet afford to purchase a car. Not only this, but the convenience of using a moped is critical to college students who have limited to freedom over the circumstances of parking and fueling/charging of their mode of transportation. Using a moped significantly mitigates the cost of being a full-time student, especially those who commute to campus, which is the majority of UH Manoa students.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 11:54:46 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaleohano Ybanez	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

House Bill 1890, however good intentioned it may be, while attempting to solve the alleged issue of noise pollution from moped traffic; worsens an existing problem: traffic overall. People who use mopeds are not likely to switch to more economical methods of transit such as TheBus or Skyline, they will purchase cars as a result of this bill. Rubber tyred-transit while already a source of pollution; the transition from gasoline powered mopeds to other motor vehicles will introduce more pollution into our environment, as compared to the more economical mopeds that have higher MPG rating than cars.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 11:56:32 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lenox Covington	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The issue being addressed by this bill is that combustion engine mopeds produce abnormal levels of sound and are therefore a detriment to communities. As someone who lives in the Kaka'ako and Manoa which both have an abundance of mopeds, I have never noticed or been bothered by the sound produced by mopeds anymore than the sound produced by other gas powered vehicles like cars. Also, even if the mopeds were significantly and noticeably louder than other vehicles, it's not a big deal and does not warrant banning their sale. There are many cars and motorcycles on the road that are significantly louder than most mopeds but we don't ban them either. If you want to stop things that detrimentally affect communities, maybe focus on getting all the crackheads out of our streets first.

The only thing that passing this bill would do is remove an affordable option for transportation and increase traffic on the highways. I drive a car but banning mopeds because of the noise they make is one of the stupidest things I've ever heard.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 12:05:45 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kory Taylor	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The title of this bill does not reflect its cause or purpose and is misleading to voters. This bill violates the rights of many college students and locals with existing motorized mopeds within the state and creates negative repercussions that impartially apply to those of lower economic status. This bill disproportionately targets struggling residents and is highly misleading. It should be rejected or extended to give people the time to make necessary changes of transportation.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 12:34:54 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anthony Martinez - Torres	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am against this bill because this bill will affect not only me but many others like me and our way of life. Mopeds are a essential part of my life and my main method of transportation. This bill will raise prices and it will hurt me financially as it will my daily life.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 7:35:17 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
George Peltier	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is not good idea as it opens a can of worms to strongly enforce noise retrictions on larger vehicles including Harley Davidson motorcycles among other types, Cars & Trucks, and larger semi delivery transport vehicles. Its only fair that we stop the sale of all newly powered gas vehicles if thats the case. Thats why we have the implimented "Safety Check" process for mopeds. The process includes various standards with lighting functionality, horn requirements, and exhaust retrictions (ie; noise). There are a few renegades running wild with overhauled performance engines installed in their mopeds whipping around in Kalihi, Waianae, Waipahu, and Waiminalo and these few people are placing the larger moped community in a bad light. Stopping the sales of new mopeds will not stop or lessen the noise that is currently out on the roads.New mopeds are manufactured with restrictors that maintain standards with speed and sound. When individuals remove or modify the motors to larger and more performace driven exhaust systems is when noise becomes a concern. Thats why the "Safety Check" protocol is in place to confirm yearly that the persons moped is within reasonable standards. Safety Checks for mopeds also brings in a steady revenue for the State. If you stop the sale of new mopeds you'll be removing a cost effective and efficient means of transportation. Beefing up police awareness, maintaining Safety Check efficiency, and holding violators accountable would be the route to go. Don't punish the many for the wreckless choices of the few.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 7:44:38 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I veamently oppose this law I rely on my moped for daily transport

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 7:57:51 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marisa Tyrell	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly OPPOSE HB1890. Moped's are no louder than motorcycles and some car exhausts. Also, it is safer for moped and electircal bike riders if car's around them can hear them. Most accidents happen when car driver's do not head check so if car's can hear them close by, they have a better chance of not getting hit.

Mahalo for your time,

Marisa Tyrell

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 9:50:37 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
tyler stolze	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I use a moped for my daily transportation, 4-stroke engine to most residents on the island it's the easiest and most financial sound use of transportation out here. That being said you are concerned about noise pollution but there are many uses of transportation that produce a lot louder noise ,that have been tested by my peers and myself useing a sound decibal reader, motercycles most cars and all city busses produced a much louder read than a 4 -stroke moped.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 10:00:27 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

i'm sorry a bill 1890 is not accurate. because a new gas moped much quieter than cars or motorcycles. plus we destroyed my personal transportation. its have an affordable cost with low mpg

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 10:36:45 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Harrison Hung	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a full time working student, I strongly oppose of bill 1890HB. My moped is my only source of transportation and I am completely reliant on it to carry out my daily activities. Mopedst save a considerable amount of money due to the high cost of owning a car and gasoline. Banning the sale of mopeds would put a great hindrances to students and commuters alike (a large portion of people in the city of Honolulu) The noise that mopeds create aren't any louder than any other form of motorized transportation, in fact typically less. That's why I Harrison Hung strongly disbelieve that this bill should be passed.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 12:18:38 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christopher Sopkin	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill, it is far too wide reaching and doesn't define what is an acceptable noise level.

The push for electric mopeds is prohibitive for people living in rural areas, due to travel range, strain on an off grid system and/or charging costs with the highest electric prices in the nation. Charging at work is not a common option due to costs as well, that's the same as stealing fuel from your employer.

Nowhere in the bill does it list the actual decibel level of an electric or internal combustion moped, nor does it define what is acceptable and what is not. Outright banning with no transparency as to the intended goal is lazy.

Hawai'i should welcome moped/motorcycle travel as it reduces congestion both on the roads and in parking areas, is more fuel efficient, and is more affordable for it's people.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 12:20:20 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike Rosenman	Individual	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

Brand new four stroke mopeds in the state of Hawaii require yearly safety checks, these safety checks have certain requirements when it comes to noise, the safety stations check for noise with a Decibel meter and they will not pass the bike if it is louder than what the law specifies, if they do they risk having their license revoked.

Old two stroke mopeds are very few in the state and if modified they may not pass safety checks, *we need law enforcement for current laws not new laws.*

Electric mopeds are very expensive, plus the bill stating that the infrastructure does not matter is not correct, if a lot of workers and students plug in their chargers at night at the same time the risk of having a fire is pretty high because a lot of people will plug their chargers into already loose outlets and extension cords, after some time these outlets and extension cords will get very hot and they will ignite, we already had a few cases in Hawaii, and more in New York.

Not to mention that many unsafe electric mopeds have the same charging connector but they all have different voltages and currents, if the household with multiple electric mopeds of different brands plugs the wrong charger in the wrong bike the fire is guaranteed !!

Needless to say the amount of Lithium battery that will get disposed in trash cans and chutes can create another environmental problem, it is not just the Lithium, these batteries are made with a lot of plastic, metals, glass boards and semiconductors and disposing them will require more city programs that we currently do not have.

We encourage the legislation to listen the voters before proposing new laws regarding gas mopeds, we go through this every year and one person will not determine the future for the entire State of Hawa'i.

Thanks for your time

Mike Rosenman

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 12:28:50 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Living in Hawaii is already expensive and getting worse due to poor leadership putting politics before people. As someone that works in Waikiki and lives past pearl Harbor, not only is my moped the most affordable way of transportation but also the most reliable. because i have high mileage on my moped i will be needing a new one soon. electric mopeds are too quiet and dangerous plus the do not have good range so it will be a money pit.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 12:36:07 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ayanna	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Moped are very crucial for college students. They get us from where we need to be at a cheaper price than a car. They are easy to park and don't take up alot of space. Banning the sell of mopeds will not only affect college students but the community around us. It was force more students to get cars which will eventually cause more unnecessary traffic, or it will cause more college students to be forced to pay for a bus pass and cause bus to very overly crowded which can also cause sickness to spread more.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 1:03:04 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 1:25:02 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Testimony Against H.B. NO. 1890 (Noise Pollution Act)

Aloha Honorable Members of the Hawai'i State Legislature,

My name is Michael, and I testify today not just as a concerned citizen of Maui but also as a voice for the many small business owners who contribute tirelessly to the heart and soul of our island community. Today, I wish to express my vehement opposition to H.B. NO. 1890, the bill concerning noise pollution through the regulation of combustion engine-powered mopeds.

While I acknowledge and share the concerns regarding noise pollution and its impact on our quality of life, particularly in urban areas, it is imperative to recognize that this bill, as written, is both reckless and irresponsible. The proposed legislation lacks a comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the complexities and challenges faced by small business owners on our island, especially during these trying times.

First and foremost, the bill's approach to curbing noise pollution through the abrupt prohibition of combustion engine-powered mopeds is drastically oversimplified. It overlooks the broader economic implications such a move would have on local businesses. Many small enterprises rely on these mopeds for their day-to-day operations, including delivery services, tourism-related activities, and transportation for employees. The sudden enforcement of this bill would leave these businesses with no viable alternatives, causing severe disruptions to their operations and, ultimately, their survival.

Moreover, the assumption that the transition to electric mopeds is a feasible alternative for all is a gross oversimplification. The bill underestimates the financial and logistical challenges involved in such a transition. For many small businesses already grappling with thin margins, the cost of replacing their fleets is not just a minor inconvenience but a substantial financial burden. Additionally, the infrastructure for electric moped charging is not as ubiquitous or accessible as the bill suggests, particularly in less urbanized areas of our island.

The lack of a clear, concise plan to mitigate these consequences is a glaring omission in the bill. It's not just about penalizing those who fail to comply; it's about understanding and addressing the needs of those who will be most affected by these changes. A more balanced approach would consider gradual implementation, financial assistance, and infrastructure development to support a smooth transition.

In conclusion, I urge you to consider the profound and far-reaching impact this bill would have on the small business community in Maui and across our state. This bill, in its current form, is a threat to the livelihoods of countless hardworking individuals who are already struggling to stay afloat. It's a hasty solution to a complex problem, one that requires thoughtful deliberation and collaborative problem-solving, not rushed and unilateral decision-making.

Therefore, I implore you to strike down H.B. NO. 1890 and to work towards a solution that truly balances the need for environmental preservation with the economic realities of our local businesses. Let's find a way to reduce noise pollution without silencing the heartbeat of our community.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Michael Hanle

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 2:20:07 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Challenging Hawaii Bill Hb1890: Preserving Access to Gas Powered Mopeds

The proposed Hawaii Bill Hb1890, which aims to prohibit the sale of gas powered mopeds, has garnered significant attention and sparked intense debate. While the intention to address noise pollution and modify transportation options may seem noble, it is vital to consider the potential ramifications and unintended consequences that could result from such legislation.

For many students and lower-income households, mopeds serve as an indispensable mode of daily transportation. These individuals rely on the affordability and convenience that gas powered mopeds provide. While it is true that some argue these vehicles are excessively loud, it is worth noting that this is not a universal characteristic. Instances of modified mopeds, akin to modified cars, may exist, but they do not represent the entirety of the moped community. New and recently safetied bikes adhere to noise regulations, ensuring that noise pollution concerns are mitigated.

The overarching issue lies in the blanket punishment the bill seeks to impose on all moped users, based on the actions of a few. It is unfair to penalize the majority for the behavior of a minority. Electric mopeds are often heralded as a viable alternative, possessing the advantage of reduced emissions. However, it is crucial to recognize that they come with their own set of risks. The quiet nature of electric mopeds poses a safety hazard, as pedestrians and fellow commuters may be unable to detect their approach, leading to potential accidents and collisions.

Additionally, while electric options may seem appealing, they are not without their drawbacks. The infrastructure required for widespread electric moped adoption is still limited. Charging stations are not as prevalent as gas stations, making it inconvenient for users to recharge their vehicles and potentially hampering their mobility. Moreover, the cost of electric mopeds remains relatively higher, limiting their accessibility for individuals with lower incomes.

It is essential to take a pragmatic approach when considering legislation. Outlawing cars and trucks based on isolated incidents would be deemed excessive and impractical. Similarly, prohibiting the sale of gas powered mopeds outright may disrupt the lives of many individuals who rely on them as a reliable mode of transportation.

In conclusion, it is crucial to reassess Hawaii Bill Hb1890, taking into account the essential role that gas powered mopeds play in the lives of students and lower-income households. Instead of implementing a complete ban, a more balanced approach revolving around education, safety regulations, and technological advancements can ensure the coexistence of gas and electric moped options. Let us strive for inclusivity and comprehensive solutions for all, encouraging a harmonious transportation landscape that meets the needs of a diverse population.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 2:59:18 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Rang	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a citizen and resident of Honolulu I stand firmly opposing this bill. As I rely on my moped to get me to and from work everyday. This would devastate the working economy of Hawaii that is already struggling to find workers to fulfill employment opportunities

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 3:03:57 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

When the 'kids' soup them up adding the extra power(carborators), yes, these should be banned. They make them so fast, they become loud and dangerous. But a 49cc and the ones people buy and are rented are great. They allow tourists to spend their \$\$ here AND have an experience like Nothing Else on the island. Once the rental companies upgrade, they sell us, the locals, their mopeds at a lower price allowing us to be more mobile to get back and forth to work. The working class. And with the tourist traffic, it allows up to be on the shoulder with the 49cc mopeds and still make it to work on time, even during congestion of the roads due to the tourists and currently, no Lahaina. They should continue to be allowed to be sold here.

Please don't allow this bill to pass. I strongly oppose!

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 3:16:37 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ashlan Urschel	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill would hurt so many businesses of local people, we oppose this bill.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 3:42:15 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruta Jordans	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support, and expand to other combustion engine, noise polluting machinery such as lawn mowers, wee wackers, etc.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 3:44:10 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lauren Hiram	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE bill HB1890 because it will impact my personal transportation negatively and mopeds are pretty quiet.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 3:48:47 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Inspection stations and police officers need to do a better job enforcing the law. There are more people obeying the law than not. The sound ordinance is of people that are upgrading their vehicles illegally. We need a better infrastructure to put a stop to this. Cancelling the sale of mopeds is ridiculous. Motorcycles are far louder and those are not in question.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 4:12:15 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ka Man Tso	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Referring to Bill HB1890 relating to Noise Pollution and the ban on the sale of Mopeds, I do not support this bill. Mopeds are meant to be affordable transportation for students and adults in city/urban areas. Electric bikes and mopeds are great, I'm not against those either, but the cost of ownership is way higher than mopeds. I do not own an e-bike, because it costs more. I own a moped because it is affordable transportation.

Relating to Noise, I feel mopeds should make some noise to keep them safe on the road. Many drivers do not pay attention to mopeds, let alone a full-size motorcycle. E-bikes on the road are even more dangerous as they hardly make noise. It is not louder than a motorcycle, it's just a different pitch.

Please do not punish the many local shops that have been in business for years. It is not right.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 4:47:23 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

The proposed Hawaii Bill Hb1890, which aims to prohibit the sale of gas powered mopeds, has garnered significant attention and sparked intense debate. While the intention to address noise pollution and modify transportation options may seem noble, it is vital to consider the potential ramifications and unintended consequences that could result from such legislation.

For many students and lower-income households, mopeds serve as an indispensable mode of daily transportation. These individuals rely on the affordability and convenience that gas powered mopeds provide. While it is true that some argue these vehicles are excessively loud, it is worth noting that this is not a universal characteristic. Instances of modified mopeds, akin to modified cars, may exist, but they do not represent the entirety of the moped community. New and recently safetied bikes adhere to noise regulations, ensuring that noise pollution concerns are mitigated.

The overarching issue lies in the blanket punishment the bill seeks to impose on all moped users, based on the actions of a few. It is unfair to penalize the majority for the behavior of a minority. Electric mopeds are often heralded as a viable alternative, possessing the advantage of reduced emissions. However, it is crucial to recognize that they come with their own set of risks. The quiet nature of electric mopeds poses a safety hazard, as pedestrians and fellow commuters may be unable to detect their approach, leading to potential accidents and collisions.

Additionally, while electric options may seem appealing, they are not without their drawbacks. The infrastructure required for widespread electric moped adoption is still limited. Charging stations are not as prevalent as gas stations, making it inconvenient for users to recharge their vehicles and potentially hampering their mobility. Moreover, the cost of electric mopeds remains relatively higher, limiting their accessibility for individuals with lower incomes.

It is essential to take a pragmatic approach when considering legislation. Outlawing cars and trucks based on isolated incidents would be deemed excessive and impractical. Similarly, prohibiting the sale of gas powered mopeds outright may disrupt the lives of many individuals who rely on them as a reliable mode of transportation.

In conclusion, it is crucial to reassess Hawaii Bill Hb1890, taking into account the essential role that gas powered mopeds play in the lives of students and lower-income households. Instead of implementing a complete ban, a more balanced approach revolving around education, safety regulations, and technological advancements can ensure the coexistence of gas and electric moped options. Let us strive for inclusivity and comprehensive solutions for all, encouraging a harmonious transportation landscape that meets the needs of a diverse population.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 6:04:49 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lucia green	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I love my moped and I have no way to charge an electric one since being in college on campus. I heavily rely on my bike along with many others. We need this

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 7:26:32 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Danny Feliciano	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear House of Representatives,

Hope all is well. I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed legislation regarding the sale of combustion engine-powered mopeds as outlined in the draft bill.

First and foremost, many residents, including myself, already face significant challenges when it comes to purchasing vehicles. The availability of mopeds offers an alternative and more affordable mode of transportation for individuals in our community. With the high cost of living, including expenses such as rent or mortgage payments, and the daunting prospect of saving for a down payment on a home, every dollar counts. Given that the price of cars has soared to almost 40-60k, this bill unfairly targets locals who live paycheck to paycheck, making it even more difficult to afford essential means of transportation.

In addition to the financial burden it imposes on residents, the proposed legislation fails to consider the practical implications of restricting the sale of combustion engine-powered mopeds. While noise pollution is undoubtedly a concern, especially in urban areas, internal combustion engine mopeds are not the sole contributors to this issue. Banning the sale of these mopeds overlooks other sources of noise pollution and places an undue burden on consumers who rely on them for transportation.

Furthermore, the proposed bill overlooks the fact that electric mopeds offer a viable alternative to combustion engine-powered models. With advancements in technology and the widespread deployment of charging infrastructure, electric mopeds provide a sustainable and environmentally friendly transportation option. Rather than imposing restrictions, efforts should be directed towards promoting the adoption of electric vehicles and incentivizing their use.

In conclusion, I urge you to reconsider the implications of this bill and its potential impact on residents of our community. It is essential to prioritize the needs of our constituents and ensure that any legislation enacted serves their best interests.

Thank you for considering my perspective on this matter. Should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Danny Feliciano

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 8:48:52 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tabitha Gunnars	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

My name is Tabitha Gunnars and I oppose HB1890. I would like to make note that I rely on my moped as transportation to and from work. I don't have the financial ability and privilege to own a car. I think the concern should be geared to more pressing matters such as homelessness or even how dangerous bright LED lights are on cars. I rely and need my moped to take me to work and back home. I don't understand how there are various cars and motorcycles (especially, the Harley Davidson brand) that create a lot of noise pollution and you're creating this bill towards mopeds. It doesn't make sense. This is why I oppose HB 1890.

Thank you,

Tabitha Gunnars

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 9:13:41 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Riley Wagoner	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I rely on a gas moped for affordable personal transportation around the city. I need my gas moped for daily use and do not believe they are louder than cars or motorcycles. I am kindly asking that you do not pass this bill as I will be left with no transportation if this bill is passed. Thank you!

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 9:29:29 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ariana Juco	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a concerned student who depends on my moped for commuting, I vehemently object to the suggested prohibition on the sale of mopeds. Although I recognize the valid concerns regarding noise pollution linked to certain mopeds, I strongly contend that a complete prohibition is not the most efficient resolution.

Alternatively, I suggest enacting a regulation that governs the trade of mopeds, with the aim of permitting the sale of solely standard exhaust mufflers that have minimal impact on noise pollution. I personally utilize a standard exhaust system that emits minimum sound, therefore emphasizing the practicality of this method.

Implementing this legislation allows us to efficiently tackle the problem of noise pollution while ensuring that individuals, such as myself, who depend on mopeds for crucial transportation requirements are not deprived. As a student, my moped serves as both my transportation to school and enables me to easily obtain groceries and other essential items. The cost-effectiveness in comparison to automobiles renders it the most feasible mode of transportation for me.

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 [↵](#)

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 10:14:23 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Curt Oishi	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly oppose HB1890. This bill is a lazy way to address noise, currently you can't enforce loud stereo systems, motorcycles, cars, illegal fireworks, etc.. Electric technology is not the answer, in America, we should have a choice.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 10:32:32 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mac daniels	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Mac Daniels oppose HB1890,

I rely on my moped to get to work. Cars, Trucks, motorcycles are much louder and most definitely put off more pollution. A car emits 0.93 pounds of carbon dioxide per mile, compared with 0.31 pounds for a moped. I myself know lots of people that rely on there moped to commute and I NEED my moped to commute please do not pass this.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 11:18:48 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jonathon Adam Kendrick	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

An alternative to this measure to combat noise pollution is to require a safety check on mopeds, which in motor vehicles already limit modified mufflers.

The legislature has already passed laws requiring licensing on mopeds in line with how automobiles are licensed. Requiring safety checks would be in line with that.

It would also stand on existing infrastructure and not require any long term changes other than possible job growth from new hire inspectors and stations.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 9:03:27 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

oppose ... should prohibit modifying mopeds to make more noise.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 3:54:21 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha! * REQUEST...DO NOT PASS HB1890!

I'm a proud Hawaii resident since 2018; I love Hawaii!

I own Camero Convertible along with a gas Moped (49cc).

I drive my moped EVERYWHERE; work, beach, market, visiting family, etc.

Myself along with MANY Hawaii residents and moped users are totally for gas sales Mopeds!

PLEASE DO NOT STOP THE GAS SALES OF MOPEDS! PLEASE!

It's GREAT FOR OUR ECONOMY & MANY HAWAII RESIDENTS USE MOPEDS!

&

It's FUN!

MAHALO!

Keep Smiling :)

Joey LaFata

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 8:06:07 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Isaiah S	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in opposition of this bill as these vehicles are affordable, easily accessible, and very energy efficient modes of transportation that are available to the working-class, local population. If noise pollution is the issue, then maybe we should be looking at spending our tax dollars in a more efficient manner that can help support DoT and the police force to manage safety check standards and traffic violations rather than creating another obstacle for our struggling local families. I struggle with mopeds being stolen and abandoned by my house as well as stolen mopeds racing up and down my street with cut-off exhaust systems reverberating through the neighborhood. This isn't a carbon emission or noise pollution issue. It is an issue with our government failing to provide the proper response to rampant crime in the city due to the underfunding of departments that can handle these issues, as well as the overfunding of departments and government officials who fail to support our local residents with inefficient and overbearing laws. Banning gas-powered mopeds will take away affordable and VERY gas efficient means of transportation for many local people, including myself. I oppose this ban and would alternatively like to see an increase in the management of criminal activity surrounding these vehicles and regulations related to noise-pollution and safety standards if necessary to keep these mopeds available for our struggling residents.

Gary S. Viveiros
gviveiros@hawaiiantel.net

February, 07, 2024

Testimony for HB 1890 on Relevant Concerns regarding Vehicular Noise Pollution (In General) before considering vehicle bans.

Quote: "Noise is the most acceptable when you're the one doing it" – Anonymous

HB1890 proposes banning the sale of gas-powered, noisy mopeds.

Current Sources of Vehicular Noise Pollution:

1. Road Surfacing Machinery Operated in the Quiet of Night.

Sources: 1. Diesel engines operating at high RPMs to generate enough power to rapidly move tons of vehicle.
2. Mechanical noises, loading and leveling material, along with rumbling of heavy rolling machines on fresh blacktop.

Duration: for the duration of the night's work.

Noise Extends: A few blocks from the source of the work.

2. Weekly Trash Pickups

Sources

1. Commercial Dumpsters and City Garbage Trucks containing hydraulic lift and/or hydraulic trash compaction cylinders. Main trucks and feeder vehicles for dumpsters.
2. Mechanical Noises: Banging and rattling of dumpster bins as a small feeder truck manipulates them out of a customer's parking area and places them on the street for the main truck to pick up. Also banging and rattling as main truck hoists bin overhead and shakes the contents out, and lowers bin with a thud to the street. Opened cover flaps slammed shut.
3. Duration: 5-minutes
4. Extends 1 block from source in morning – Most noticeable : early morning before alarm clock goes off, prematurely waking people.

3. Mopeds

1. Standard stock mopeds with standard mufflers produce acceptable noise levels.
2. Unacceptable behavior – continuously revving engine in cadence cycles as if pretending they are a motorcycle racer getting ready to jump off a starting line.
3. Exhaust modification- using low restriction mufflers to gain more power at the expense of louder noise..
4. Engine modification – 'porting out' the intake and exhaust ports to make a smoother flow of gases to increase engine power, with resultant noise increase.
5. Engine cylinder modification in diameter increase and longer throw or travel for higher compression.
6. Problem: No license required and no safety check requiring compliance with no engine modifications.

4. Automobile

1. Mechanical, low restriction exhaust, or running 'uncapped' 'straight pipe' no significant muffler installed. Allows tremendously loud noise only giving the impression of a more powerful vehicle to stroke the ego of a driver that seeks attention by wielding a threateningly loud vehicle. This has the added effect of antisocial behavior creating noise in a quiet neighborhood, drawing attention to themselves and challenging anyone to stop them. The addition of superchargers or turbine boosters create additional guttural noises of high volume – way past that of the stock vehicle. It is annoying, especially late at night, in quiet neighborhoods, being an antisocial challenge to the neighborhood. The turbine boosters noise can be manipulated by cadence revving of the engine in which it appears that their sound emulates speaking as if from one vehicle to another in a way that would be comical if not for the fact that it is done late at night in convenience store parking lot hangouts.
2. The problems in automotive noise is only partly mechanical. The main driving factor is the antisocial behavior and uncaring attitude of the drivers in the neighborhood in which they are driving. Open-top vehicles like rag-top cars and convertibles play the radio loudly to overcome the ambient road noise, and as such exceed the volume acceptable in the neighborhood day or night for amplified sound sources.
3. Drivers who over-rev their vehicle's engine going down the street in over gear just to make their car sound more powerful than it is or to draw attention to the sound of their engine, is unnecessary noise

pollution. Vehicles whose drivers over-rev the engines for the purpose of squealing the tires or 'burning out' while climbing a hill under high power is also unnecessary exhibitionism, a nuisance, and unwanted in the neighborhood.

5. Trucks

For the most part – same as for automotive. Some drivers feel that a large truck with a louder, larger engine is a great neighborhood intimidation tool to exercise control. They hide in darkened cabs unwilling to be identified in their threatening vehicles.

6. Motorcycles

In the beginning, motorcycles started off OK. They were an inexpensive way to ride in the neighborhood and to travel inexpensively to neighboring cities. Those who wanted to race them raced at tracks and not in neighborhoods. Certain manufacturers started pandering more powerful motorcycles to the 'go-anywhere crowd' and redefining it as go anywhere and do anything you want to attitude.

As such they made and patented engines to make characteristic loud, guttural sounds and achieve high speeds as stock vehicles. The engines had loud starting and running sounds, and when revved in bursts, sounded like the snorting of a wild boar in back of you. While there are stock motorcycles with acceptable noise levels and responsible riders, but the ability of people, for years, to 'get away with it' has produced a counter culture of noisy riders who not only don't care, but embrace it. They form groups they call clubs or gangs – depending on how they act. However even those with a benign club association change their persona when they hop on their motorcycle and travel with their pack. They seem to look mysterious, aloof and giving the impression that they are 'bad' in their riding accessory clothing. The newer generation of motorcycles are racing types. While they should be quieter, they promote midnight and early morning racing on H1 through the Kaimuki to Makiki stretch at dangerously high speeds for a commuter highway and at that speed their engines scream at high revs.

Building a racetrack is a waste of money if you think that it will stop road racing for cars, mopeds and motorcycles. Antisocial behavior and false pride cause certain individuals and groups to issue informal challenges as to proficiency and vehicle ability. These are carried out on the roadways in front of group members with accompanying betting, and cheering at night, as revenge for past losses.

Solutions:

1. Yearly required safety check and registration of all vehicles using streets or public or government land - bicycles, mopeds, motorcycles, trucks and anything else that emerges, to include meeting road noise standards.
2. Random vehicle stops to now include vehicles meeting a new noise standard, as well as disabled driving checks.
3. Noise measurement required when responding to noisy vehicle complaint. These latter two points are important because the noise level can be adjusted lower for the purposes of registration and safety check and readjusted afterward, or a lax mechanic can pass a noisy vehicle and claim that it became noisy after his check. Catching it on the road may be the only foolproof way because offenders seem to want to drive around obnoxiously loud. Ticket the person once and impound it for scrap for a subsequent offense.
4. There are cases of unavoidable noise. While they contribute to noise pollution, their presence is desired and unavoidable. This would be utility and emergency response vehicles, and military vehicles and parade and exhibition permitted vehicles. Even ice cream trucks could be permitted yearly to operate within noise guidelines for amplified sound in a neighborhood.
5. Summary: Unless you have in place a comprehensive noise pollution policy which covers vehicles, residential and commercial noise pollution standards, along with standards, measurement standards, enforcement and permitting and include it as a requirement for any vehicle operation it is a waste of time to try and impose a ban on a specific type of conveyance by itself. A corollary which recently emerged in the area of vehicle speed control was the proof of performance versus calibration of police speed radar guns. Any noise measurement must be specified taken at a certain distance from the vehicle using standards and proof of compliance with a calibrated standard.
6. The other portion addresses impounding action and destruction of vehicles used to produce annoyance in noise in neighborhoods by repeat individuals.
7. Last note – a comprehensive vehicle noise pollution plan has to include low-flying fixed wing and rotor craft and pleasure boats operating in close waters. Either it is comprehensive or it won't pass scrutiny.

HB-1890

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 7:30:53 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/8/2024 9:30:00 AM

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. Don't make it more expensive to live on this island than it already is.