



**TESTIMONY BY:**  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN  
DIRECTOR

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DREANALEE K. KALILI  
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**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 21, 2023  
10:30 A.M.  
State Capitol, Teleconference

**S.B. 588 SD2**  
**RELATING TO EXCESSIVE NOISE**

Senate Committee on Transportation

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

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

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

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

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



WAIKIKI NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 9

o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 925 DILLINGHAM BLVD. SUITE 160 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96817  
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Date: March 15, 2023

At the February 14, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Waikiki Neighborhood Board the board supported the concept of Senate Bill 588.

A standard concern at meetings of the Waikiki Neighborhood Board is noise from Loud Mufflers (or lack of mufflers) on vehicles “racing” along Ala Wai Blvd. both day and night.

While this complaint is normally directed at a group that gathers in the Zoo area then “races” off along Ala Wai Blvd. It is not limited to this group.

This bill could provide a path to installation of equipment and software to measure muffler noise and register each vehicle entering Waikiki and other communities. I think this technology actually exists and could be used to identify noisy vehicles and even identify stolen or vehicles used in crimes.

To be effective this bill would have to designate what “loud muffler” means to everyone. To enforce this Bill the County Police and State Sheriffs and probably Department of Land and Natural Resources would need a standard and the decibel meters to measure the noise at a specific distance.

As residents of Waikiki this bill is welcomed and very necessary but enforcement may prove to be difficult unless a specific noise level is designated.

Mahalo for your concern,

*Robert Finley*

Robert Finley  
Chair

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 11:35:21 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cards Pintor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support this bill.

Mahalo nui,

Cards Pintor

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 12:37:32 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

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

Please move this bill forward.

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 2:45:47 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Noise pollution is rampant on our islands. Please support this bill. Mahalo.

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 4:10:42 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Frank Cao	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB588 SD2.

My family lives in a condo in Ala Moana area. The noise is too much and we can't sleep well. My two young sons will be scared and woken up by the extreme noise from the cars and motorcycles in the nighttime. It is just too much. The noise controls are necessary and much needed for the hardworking Ohanas to have a good sleep.

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 4:41:08 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Blaise Yamauchi	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I respectfully request your opposition to legislation (S.B. 588) which would develop a pilot program for testing noise cameras to ticket loud cars and trucks. Further, additional legislation (S.B. 586 / S.B. 587) was also introduced to reform enforcement of its exhaust noise laws. While the required technology has not yet been proven reliable, the underlying exhaust noise laws are also fundamentally flawed.

If passed, the cameras would follow Hawaii’s existing exhaust noise law, which prohibits mufflers that “noticeably increase the noise” and mandates that mufflers must be identical to their factory setting. Therefore, no accurate sound level exists at which point noise cameras would be triggered.

The current exhaust noise law is vague and unenforceable without cameras, as measuring each motor vehicle to its factory set muffler creates hundreds of exhaust noise standards on which to enforce. Further, the viability of the technology should be fully tested before ticketing its residents.

Noise cameras contain a sound meter that takes a photo if the upper sound limit is reached. However, the camera cannot differentiate what caused the offending noise. It is up to a human reviewer to make that determination, which may require that individual to select from a group of vehicles in an intersection. Given the intended use in an urban area, which will have a higher number of vehicles and buildings that reflect sound, the feasibility of using these devices to accurately pinpoint and ticket the offender is problematic.

Cities that have deployed noise cameras, such as New York, Knoxville, Edmonton, and Toronto have reported issues identifying offending vehicles and either failed to issue tickets or scrapped their programs entirely. In Edmonton, the city spent \$192,000 in equipment over a three-month period and only produced one enforcement.

First, Hawaii should set one upper limit for exhaust noise—95 decibels—backed by an objective measurement system, instead of relying on subjective judgments.

Hawaii needs to implement a working system with an objective testing procedure for determining if a vehicle’s exhaust system illegally amplifies the noise emitted by the motor vehicle.

Using an SAE International measurement standard would allow the state to definitively prove guilt or innocence, replacing an unpredictable system that cannot objectively verify whether an exhaust system amplifies the noise emitted by the motor vehicle.

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 11:54:56 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Paul Ing	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

\* sleep disorders

\* learning disability

\*noise pollution

When a loud motorcycle drive by at night, it also alerts the near by car alarm to go off, the duration of the car alarms stay long time and multiple times per night, we all have jobs the next day, we have to take care of children for school the next day and it also effects the elderly people's health

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 7:57:44 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Thomas Nakamura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill, it distributed everyone in my neighborhood when the loud motorcycle or excessive loud car drive by at night, it trigger the near by car alarms, it woked everyone in my household.

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 11:27:56 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ryan Willis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSE SB 588

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 11:30:46 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kanoë Willis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSE SB 588

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 9:09:52 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

TO MUCH COMMUNIST CONTROL WITCH IS NOT LEGAL IN AMERICA. STOP  
ATTACKING THE PEOPLE!!!!

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/17/2023 6:18:47 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael Mischer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of SB588 as a citizen who is terrorized daily, by mostly males in their 20th and 30th, sometimes even older, acting out their stupid juvenile dreams. I am aware that this is a sexist remark and certainly not woke. Modified mufflers, screaming engines and rumbling Harley's are not cool and make the life of thousands of city dwellers miserable. Since it will not be possible to convince the group of juveniles and adults acting like juveniles, to change their behavior , it is time to put a stop to this behavior by identifying them and let them know that enough is enough. Please vote yes for a civilized society. Thank you

March 17, 2023

RE: March 21, 2023 hearing / Support of SB588 Relating to Excessive Noise

Aloha Representatives,

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

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

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

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

Please support this bill and by doing so, the health and well-being of Hawaii's residents and visitors.

Sincerely,

Denise  
Denise Boisvert  
Waikiki



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

CityLab | Environment

## Europe's Noise Capital Tries to Turn Down the Volume

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

By Peter Yeung

April 26, 2022 at 7:00 PM HST

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

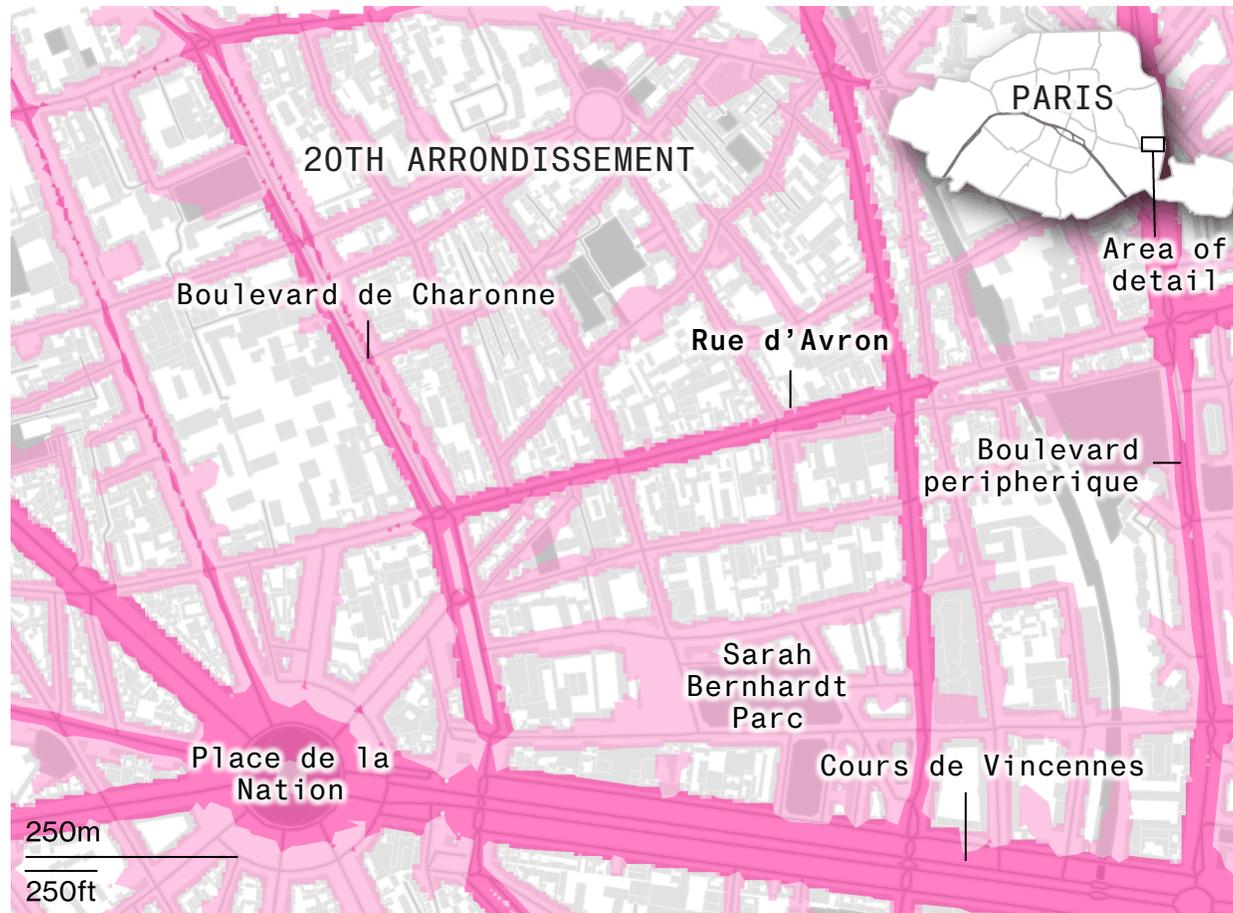
The effort to quiet Paris complements the wider campaign to make Paris greener, cleaner and less car-dependent, which include a series of vehicle restrictions in the city center, crackdowns on the most polluting vehicles, and an ambitious expansion of cycling networks. Those changes have cut the city's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

## It Might Get Loud

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

Average daily noise level (Lden)

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



Source: Bruitparif, Apur

Note: Noise map is for road traffic only

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

– *With assistance by Marie Patino*

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DATE: March 21, 2023  
RE: SUPPORT SB588 SD2, Hearing on 3/21/23

Aloha,

I FULLY SUPPORT SB588 SD2.

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

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

Each month at the Waikiki Neighborhood Board meeting HPD reports that they cited **only a couple loud mufflers during the past month!!??!!**

Waikiki residents know there are easily a couple earsplitting mufflers that travel on our streets every couple of hours. This means that they are not enforcing the law and obviously need help to do it. In the meantime, residents and visitors suffer.

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

Mahalo,  
Kim Jorgensen  
Waikiki

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/18/2023 12:41:16 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
tony frascarelli	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill and any other measures that will reduce excessive noises whether it be by vehicles, lawn equipment or anything else.

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/18/2023 7:30:01 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Stephen Thul	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To all concerned lawmakers,

I live at the Windsor on Hobron less than half of a block from Ala Moana Blvd. The street bikes and truck air horns at night and during the day is exasperating, infuriating and maddening at best. This is with my windows closed. I understand the need for loud sirens for emergency response vehicles. I don't know why competing levels of cacophony are not illegal. The people in these neighborhoods in Waikiki deserve better if not better representation of our leaders. Please punish this unnecessary behavior by all means possible; financially and criminally then move on to graffiti. Thank you. Steve Thul

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/18/2023 7:57:38 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Midori Marcia Sue Trent	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB 588 in ana effort to curb loud mufflers, deliberate & repetitive back-fire noises and excessive informal car or bicyle parades specifically using Kuhio,Kalakaua or Ala Wai to traverse Waikiki.

As a resident of Waikiki for 20 years, I finally made a decision to move away because of the constant need to cocoon ourselves within our apartments with headphones, airconditioning and closed windows, self induced prisoners due to other peoples' inconsiderate and disruptive noise. Shame on those who cannot understand what courtesy and social grace is when creating unnecessary noise for their own fleeting pleasure! Please pass SB 588 accompanied by strong enforcement thereafter. Thank you for your efforts.

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/18/2023 9:46:03 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John Bickel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a resident of the noisy neighborhood of Waikiki, I support this bill.

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 2:55:23 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Todd Wilson	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm not sure if these noise cameras will work for the worst noise violators at all, which is which is our garbage trucks and Honolulu EMS.

These garbage trucks are waking up entire neighborhoods at 4-4:30am and judging from their drivers behaviors, it's obvious their drivers don't give a damn about who they wake and how that slam those dumpster around.

The biggest violator, however, is Honolulu EMS. They have sirens that sounds like 3-4 sirens going on all at the same time and they drive through residential neighborhoods in the middle of the night when not a soul is on our roads with their sirens 3-4 times the decibiles of all other emergency vehicles on our roads today.

It seems that police and fire vehicles have their sirens set at proper levels but Honolulu EMS has multiple sirens on each vehicle and it sounds like every emergency vehicle on the island is coming your way just to discover it's just one lone ambulance with their siren(s) so loud that you must cover your own ears inside your own homes and if you are out walking your pets, you must make a important life decision, save your hearing or the hearing of your pet.

At a recent midnight event at our State Capitol Building, I watched an owner of a big dog over it's ears while three police officers had to cover their ears like us also.

We demand that Emergency vehicles drive in "Silent mode", lights and flashers only after 12am midnight until 6am.

During the daylight hours, it is these vehicles with loud amplified "boom boxes" playing the loudest, crapest "Pure Shit" known to man, whose bass is cranked up so high that it shakes buildings and sets off house and cars alarms even before it reaches your street.

Example, every morning just before 9am, we have some bozo lined up on Diamond Head bound lane of Dole Street to get to the west bound H-1 freeway entrance that makes all my kitchen appliance dance around because their "boom box" is that damn loud!

To be honest, I think this " Noise Camera" idea is just another bogus waste of money and there isn't enough science available to say that these "Noise Cameras" even works and somehow I get the feeling that this "Noise Camera" system will somehow be abuses by city and law enforcement alike in the not too far future. It's bad enough that people's home camera systems are linked to the internet now and that there is free apps designed to spy on everyday residents walking their pets, taking out their trash, having a family BBQ, mowing their lawns, shopping in stores and now linking dash cams onto the internet also. When is all this BS going to end?

I firmly oppose this "Noise Camera" idea and lets have our law enforcement to start enforce the laws that is already on the books and in some cases, has been for decades!

NO TO ANYMORE CAMERAS OF ANY TYPE!

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 7:19:13 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Margaret Murchie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this bill to enforce and restrict amplified "entertainment" with its current painful, earsplitting noise level on almost every Waikiki block - each "performer" attempting to outdo each other, creating chaos with easily, distracted prey on crowded sidewalks. Neighbors cannot sleep 3 streets back & legitimate businesses cannot hear their customers. No taxes paid, permits & venmo often requested. We have worked with the police on the county level and I have testified at City Council, who approved the county bill but mayor and prosecutor said it was unenforceable as written. Ask workers at hotels along the way how many complaints they get. They have to wear earplugs. I own a long term rental condo near Kapahulu and Kalakaua and have lost tenants over the noise issue. Please do something to quell the cacophony that begins at sunset (7PM) riles up the mentally challenged and allows easy pickings for pickpockets on the crowded sidewalks. Pedestrians are crowded onto the streets and with cars racing by regularly, we know how that goes. We also absolutely need to do something about the loud motorcycles and other vehicles with modified mufflers racing around the neighborhoods night and day. When the Senate bill was passed, they amended the start time from 7PM to 10PM at the urging of the hotel workers union and I think that it is selfishly so that they can bang their drums and loud bullhorns when negotiating their contracts. At first, I didn't understand it as hotel guests and residents are certainly adversely impacted. When it went to the first house reading, it was amended to 9PM but I urge you to take it back to 7pm as this is when people are home trying to have dinner and watch tv, something that they cannot do in peace right now even with windows closed. (several streets away). It's painfully loud.

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 9:03:30 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jason Axelson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Excessive noise is a perpetual problem in Urban Honolulu where I live. It causes many problems such as lost sleep and elevated stress levels. I strongly support taking some measures to curb the excessive noise, especially noise from vehicles.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jason Axelson

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 10:40:50 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ted Bohlen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Kila, and members of the Transportation Committee.

Thank you for hearing this important bill relating to excessively noisy vehicles! It provides for a pilot program using noise detection traffic cameras. I **strongly support** the bill!

Noise pollution is a prevalent and increasing problem in parts of Hawaii. Noise interferes with communication, sleep and work. The U.S. EPA says that noise degrades quality of life by impairing communication and social interaction; reducing the accuracy of work, particularly complex tasks; and creating stressful levels of frustration and aggravation that last even when the noise has ceased. Noisy vehicles are a particular problem in parts of Oahu that this pilot may help address.

Please pass this bill!

Mahalo!

Ted Bohlen

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 11:20:42 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael Rhodes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Living in Waikiki mauka of Kuhio Ave, I've never experienced this amount of loud noise. Having moved here from New York City, and also having lived in Los Angeles and San Francisco, this is saying a lot.

Although sirens from police/fire/ambulance can be excused, there is also a ridiculous amount of noise from mufflerless cars and motorcycles, service and tourist vehicles with excessive backup alarms that can be heard from blocks away, car radios blaring for blocks on end, and homeless and hostel residents near Lemon and Cartwright Roads screaming and whooping as the top of their lungs.

As a high tax-paying Hawaii resident for decades, most nights I cannot have my windows or lanai door open if I wish to watch television. On the weekends particularly, the excessive noise continues into the night, so I cannot even enjoy fresh air while sleeping. I've come to resent the infringement on my quality of life, due mostly to people who do not live in the neighborhood. Very loud noise from cars and motorcycles having removed their mufflers and radios loud enough to be heard for blocks are already illegal as far as I know, but there has been no action taken even for these.

Please, please allow us the peace and quality of life that other Hawaii residents already enjoy. Even in an urban area, excessive noise can be controlled, as I've observed in NYC, LA, and SFO in areas more densely populated. I'm tired of perspiring throughout the night because I can't cool my apartment by opening a window, and not being able to hear normal conversational noise levels at home while enjoying the fresh air that we appreciate in Hawaii.

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 12:36:23 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Yvonne Geesey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mahalo House Committee Representatives for hearing SB 588. Please pass this measure. Traffic noise is extremely loud in Waikiki where I live. Air horns and intentional revving of engines scare people and animals and are unnecessary. Enforcement of our noise laws would be helpful.

Aloha, Yvonne Geesey

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 12:47:06 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Christine L Anast	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I live on the corner of Ala Moana Blvd. & Ena/Kalia Streets. The noise from motorcycles, two cylinder mopeds, and especially cars that have altered their mufflers to the point of making explosive sounds, has become unbearable. It's truly unliveable. There is a particular vehicle (small truck) that has changed the horn to the sound of a locomotive. Honestly, you would think a train is coming down the street. We can no longer keep our doors open. We live on the 39th floor of a 41-story building. We own our condo and are paying property taxes. I keep looking for other places to move because this noise pollution is so disruptive, it's affecting our lives greatly. Many other cities have laws aimed at this problem. This is an island. This is supposed to be paradise. IT IS NOT! When going to the mainland, we may hear a loud vehicle once or twice in three-weeks time. We hear it once or twice in 30-minutes time here! Please! Please! Please! Don't let a number of obnoxious vehicles ruin our lives. I am not alone in my feelings; everyone I talk to feels the same way. This Bill is a step in the right direction. IT MUST PASS! Mahalo for taking the time to read this, and acting on it. If I had been available to make this meeting in person, I would have.

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 2:16:51 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Peter Anast	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I believe it is self-evident that the virtually all the noise is intentional. It is also my belief that it would only take a modicum of noise ordinance enforcements to change the risk/reward mindset of the perpetrators and the noise will be abated. Let's do a little enforcement and see what happens.

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 2:22:46 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael Taleff	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I live on the corner of Ena Dr, and Ala Moana Blvd. The traffic noise and loud music has become intolerable over the years. To be sure, there are days in which the noise is hearable. Those are usually the weekdays, but on the weekends things liven up. This is especially true of cars and motorcycles that speed from the Ena Rd stop light to the next stop light. This is about a block long, it's a straight shot to the next intersection, and many cars and motorcycles make as much noise as they can speeding down this stretch. Oh, they rev their engines prior to the change of light, and I know what's coming

Many cars have a music system that plays loud and makes it feel as if that system is just outside my sliding doors.

I realize I live in a city, yet the sound levels at their worst are beyond a nuisance.

Appreciate your time.

Mike Taleff

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 4:02:14 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Younghee Overly	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB588 SD2 to end the excessive traffic noise in Hawaii

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 4:08:37 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
R. Vietor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Kalakaua Ave and Ena Rd intersection near the 7/11 store and Irish Pub Saloon would make a great location for a sound surveillance camera to capture late evening motorcycle and scooter exhaust noise, loud music from vehicles, and screaming rage-rants periodically shouted from homeless pedestrians in that area.

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 7:24:09 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Pam Walker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB588. Noise detection cameras would help to deter the drivers that roar through our neighborhood with their loud mufflers and motor cycles. The sound echoes off of the buildings and is disturbing to the peace. The riders not only make one pass down the street, but go around the block several times to keep the annoying roars going. Lately the groups have become larger and they start later at night. We need your help.

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 7:30:54 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Atlas Cook	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please stop the noise in our lovely state.

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2023 5:30:59 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David Anderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Ala Moana Blvd condo residents are victimized way too often late at night by vehicular noise. Mostly coming from motorcycles, mopeds and drivers who feel they must speed and show off with their noisy and often unmuffled driving. Bad enough in the daytime, disruptive of sleep at night.

Any measure to curtail or reduce this traffic noise I fully support.

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2023 7:13:54 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Thomas D. poole	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a resident (and condo owner) of Waikiki I am in favor of SB 588. The excessive noise from vehicles is disruptive to sleep, conversations, and affects my "quality of life." Examples of the excessive noise include loud mufflers on motorcycles, and booming bass sounds and loud music from cars. Mahalo for your consideration.

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2023 8:53:26 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
rita braun	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm 85 years old living at Discovery Bay in Waikiki.

The noise from modified mufflers is sometimes so loud we have to stop talking.

It seems like the noise maker revs up the engines on purpose to be of joy to them.

It causes literally mental stress and mental ailment to us.

Mahalo for considering to limit this source of stress.

Aloha Rita and Joerg Braun

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2023 1:01:12 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
William Short	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

PLEASE, pass this bill (SB588 SD2). My wife and I are senior citizens living in Waikiki near Jefferson Elementary School on Kapahulu Ave. The excessive noise from extremely loud cars, motorcycles, and mopeds is detrimental to our health. This article from AARP on how excessive noise is linked to heart problems applies to us: <https://www.aarp.org/health/conditions-treatments/info-2022/noise-and-heart-attacks.html>.

Normal traffic noise around Waikiki from cars, motorcycles, mopeds, and even large busses with legal mufflers does not bother us. And although loud, the sirens from ambulances and fire engines do not bother us either (we're not sure why, but we assume they're at a frequency that doesn't affect us). But the noise from extremely loud mufflers and/or engines is painful for us.

What makes it worse is that the drivers with excessively loud vehicles routinely race up and down the streets (Kawahulu Ave, Ala Wai Blvd, Kuhio Ave.) late at night. Three nights ago (Friday night) they woke us up at 1:30 AM. It happened again two nights ago at around midnight. This happens all the time. They apparently do it with impunity because currently there does not seem to be anything to deter them. And when complaints are brought up at Waikiki Board meetings, the scofflaws seem to come out in louder and greater numbers afterwards to mock us.

Please help us and many of our friends and neighbors here who feel the same as us. Pass this bill!

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2023 2:12:56 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Deb Crawford	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Living in West Waikiki, it's understandable to have "city noises", such as police and fire sirens and backing up garbage trucks. I have NEVER understood why it has been allowed to have people alter their cars/trucks/motorcycles to create ear piercing sounds that are much louder and more disturbing! Similar to the reason smoking isn't allowed in public spaces, as non-smokers shouldn't be forced to endure the polluted air, the general public should not have to endure the excessive noise created by a few.

**LATE**

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2023 4:20:14 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Teena Smart	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My husband and I are supportive of SB588 about excessive noise. But, it will only work if it can be enforced. Our concern is that it would be empty promises if, for instance, every Sunday, the motorcycles roaring into Waikiki don't respect the law. We are not against the motorcycles, only their noise.

The other issue is the early morning garbage trucks, bang, bang, banging to get them emptied out. At 4 in the morning it is too early. They should not be allowed to start until 6 am.

Thank you for your time.

**LATE**

**SB-588-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/20/2023 7:38:00 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Phillip Crawford	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We live in west Waikiki, next to the Ala Wai canal. The orientation of the buildings in our area channeles sounds into our unit. Overly loud vehicles and motorcyles are unfortunately and increasing occurence disturb the residents at **all hours of the day**. If the cause is improper maintenance, then this should be called out during the annual safety check, if it is by the choice of the owner, especially through an improper vehicle modification, then of course there should be a fine levied. Think about it, if you have a too loud party, you may receivea citation for disturbing the peace, why should this not also apply to vehicle? Please move this legislation to the governer for signing and enactment.

Mahalo