



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

February 7, 2023  
10:30 AM  
State Capitol, Room 312 & Videoconference

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

House Committee on Transportation

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

We request subsections in SECTIONS 2, 3, and 4 be revised to read as follows:

- (1) The intersection, including a left turn only lane, is controlled by traffic-control signals programmed to change to a green signal after a vehicle detection device recognizes the approaching vehicle, and vehicle detection device does not recognize the arrival of a bicycle/motorcycle/moped;
- (2) The operator of the bicycle/motorcycle/moped comes to a full and complete stop at the intersection as defined in 291C-32(3)(A), and waits over a vehicle loop detector when visible in the pavement;
- (3) The traffic control signal, including the left turn only signal, as appropriate, does not change to a green signal after either the completion of one traffic signal cycles or the time it would take for the completion of one traffic signal cycles;
- (4) No contraflow lane is in operations or being set-up; and
- (5) The operator of the bicycle/motorcycle/moped exercises due care and proceeds with caution through the intersection yielding the right-of-way to any vehicle which has entered the intersection from another highway, or which is approaching so closely on the other highway as to constitute an immediate hazard during the time when such operator is moving across or within the intersection.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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OUR REFERENCE ST-TK

February 7, 2023

The Honorable Chris Todd, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Transportation  
House of Representatives  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 312  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Todd and Members:

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

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

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

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


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

The HPD urges you to oppose House Bill No. 1319, Relating to the Traffic Code.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
FJR, Arthur J. Logan  
Chief of Police

  
Stason Tanaka, Acting Major  
Traffic Division

**HB-1319**

Submitted on: 2/3/2023 3:02:48 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2023 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

yes we support this bill HB 1319

**HB-1319**

Submitted on: 2/4/2023 8:29:09 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2023 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

HB1319 will help alleviate the frustrations that many of us two-wheeled riders experience when the traffic light sensor system cannot see us to cycle the light. We either wait multiple cycles until another, larger vehicle comes up to trip the light or we risk a ticket by running the red light after checking for traffic. PLEASE approve and pass this bill!

**HB-1319**

Submitted on: 2/6/2023 9:25:43 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael Ferreira	Street Bikers United	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

As there has not been a complete installation of an alternative to alerting the signal system that there is a vehicle waiting, I believe a law like this should be a proper fill-in for when the new system is complete. Perhaps a sundown provision as an amendment would be property for somewhere in the 60 month range. If the system goes in place within that time, the law would still exist but will be redundant if the system works.

Michael Ferreira

Legislative Lobbyist

Street Bikers United Oahu

**HB-1319**

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

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Manabo Sato	Moped Doctors Inc.	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We at Moped Doctors support this legislation strongly and fully as we believe that it is true from both anecdotal and personal experience that red light sensors are not sensitive enough in many cases to detect a moped, scooter or motorcycle and these riders have unnecessary time waiting to comply with the law with a technical device that is not optimized for their needs of the two wheeled vehicle market.

We appreciate the extra thought and courtesy to accomodate us as part of the Hawaii motoring community.

**HB-1319**

Submitted on: 2/3/2023 10:00:02 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SUPPORT: As a motorcyclist and cyclist, some sensors do not respond to the weight of my MC, thus forcing me to proceed through the intersection against the red element in violation of the hawaii revised statute.

**HB-1319**

Submitted on: 2/3/2023 2:05:53 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michelle Brown	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am FULL SUPPORT in HB 1319. Many of times while at the traffic light on Motorcycle light did not turn green with no other oncoming vehicles.



**HB-1319**

Submitted on: 2/3/2023 2:06:43 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Erman Tancayo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STRONGLY SUBMIT HB 1319.

Mahalo

**HB-1319**

Submitted on: 2/3/2023 3:59:28 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Al-Jerometta Chede	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this measure. I am a fellow motorcyclist and due to vehicle sensors, I am left waiting at a light until another car has pulled up, even then some cars don't pull up close enough in order to give space and courtesy to riders. Allowing one to proceed through a red light when sufficient time has passed and no hazards and dangers are posed, this can accommodate those who ride motorcycles and mopeds.

**HB-1319**

Submitted on: 2/3/2023 4:13:29 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Pancho Owens	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this bill and humbly ask for the legislators support also as I have experienced this situation on many occasions/locations. This merely recognizes a traffic signal malfunction or a sensor triggering deficiency and gives motorcyclists a "legitimate" alternative remedy with a common sense cautious legal authorization and protection.

**HB-1319**

Submitted on: 2/3/2023 11:28:26 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Patrick Gorong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Fully support this bill since traveling on my motorcycle during the odd hours of the night is already worrisome due to shady characters that tend to wander around. Having to dismount my vehicle and actuate the crosswalk signal so that I may proceed through an intersection puts me in an even more precarious situation. In the case of left turn on green arrow lanes it is even worse since crosswalk buttons don't trigger those which means I'll have to bypass certain intersections and do a U turn in order to get to my destination.

**HB-1319**

Submitted on: 2/4/2023 8:26:15 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Koleman pauline	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this measure

TO: Members of the Committee on Transportation

FROM: Natalie Iwasa, aka Bike Mom  
808-395-3233

HEARING: 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, February 7, 2023

SUBJECT: HB 1319, Allowing Bicyclists to Travel Through Red Lights When Sensor Loops Do Not Work - **SUPPORT With Amendment**

Aloha Chair Todd and Committee Members,

Thank you for allowing the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 1319, which would allow bicyclists, motorcyclists and moped drivers to go through red lights during certain hours of the day when sensor loops are not working properly. I support this.

If a bicyclist is not properly lined up on the sensor loop, if the loop is not sensitive enough or the bike does not have enough metal in it, the light will not be triggered to turn green. This happens to me regularly on Kalanianaʻole Hwy. in the left turn lanes and on some side streets. Unless a car comes up behind me, which happens only about half the time, I go through a red light, as the only other option would be to wait for an unknown amount of time.

I'm not sure why this bill includes limits this movement to very late at night and very early in the morning. Most bicyclists ride during the daytime and shouldn't have to break the law to be able to go through an intersection or turn left.

**Please amend this bill to remove the hour limitation.**

Please also hold a meeting on [HB 930](#), which would allow bicyclists at certain intersections to proceed through right-turn-only lanes.

**LATE**

**HB-1319**

Submitted on: 2/6/2023 6:58:46 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2023 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gwen Stauffer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the passage of HB1319. As a motorcycle rider, I constantly get stuck sitting at a red light that will not change due to the weight of my motorcycle and the fact that the light sensors will not detect my bike. This happens even when there is no traffic and I am forced to turn around or go straight when a light turns green and then make a U turn. Or wait an extended amount of time for a car to come behind me on the road then move up into the intersection so that the car behind me can get on the sensor. This results in a risk to my life because cars don't always see motorcycles and then I am sitting in an intersection at risk of getting hit to legally go through the light.

**HB-1319**

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 9:02:53 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/7/2023 10:30:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Travis Counsell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a person who rides a bicycle, I am in support of the intention of this bill. Given that our roadways are designed predominately for large vehicles, there are many situations where the infrastructure does not recognize me as a road users. This leads to frustration and at points unsafe situations. There would need to be clear education to road users as well as law enforcement regarding this law. Additionally, signage noting when it would be legal to proceed on red. With clear education, I support this bill moving forward.