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PRESENTATION OF DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS OFFICE OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

TWENTY-FOURTH STATE LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION, 2008

Wednesday, January 30, 2008 9:00 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2954 - RELATING TO TOWING.

TO THE HONORABLE JOSEPH M. SOUKI, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department") appreciates the opportunity to testify in opposition to House Bill No. 2954, Relating to Towing. My name is Stephen Levins, and I am the Executive Director of the Department's Office of Consumer Protection.

House Bill No. 2954 seeks to reinstate towing charges that were just prohibited by this Legislature a mere seven months ago. At that time, the towing law, section 290-11 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, was amended to allow towing companies to increase their fees considerably. Pursuant to Act 269, towing fees increased from \$55 to \$65,