STAND. COM. REP. NO. 466

Honolulu, Hawaii

Fe 515, 2007

RE: H.B. No. 156 H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say Speaker, House of Representatives Twenty-Fourth State Legislature Regular Session of 2007 State of Hawaii

## Sir:

Your Committee on Transportation, to which was referred H.B. No. 156 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE USE OF MOBILE PHONES WHILE DRIVING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to increase motor vehicle safety by:

- (1) Prohibiting the use of a hand-held cellular phone while operating a motor vehicle upon a public highway;
- (2) Prohibiting the use of a hand-held cellular phone, including those equipped with a hands-free device, while operating a moving school bus; and
- (3) Imposing fines for using a hand-held cellular phone while operating a motor vehicle.

This bill also provides exemptions if the person using the hand-held cellular phone is using the phone for emergency purposes or is using a hands-free device.

The Department of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu, Oahu Transit Services, Inc., Verizon Wireless, and Cingular Wireless testified in support of this bill. Sprint Nextel opposed this measure.

HB156 HD1 HSCR TRN HMS 2007-2130



The use of a hand-held cellular device while operating a motor vehicle can be a distraction leading to a motor vehicle collision. Collisions due to the use of a hand-held cellular device could be avoided and personal injury and property damage eliminated if regulations existed to restrict the use of a hand-held cellular device while operating a motor vehicle. Although debate continues as to whether cell phone use contributes to accidents, your Committee feels that this bill warrants further discussion.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Prohibiting the use of a hand-held cellular phone, including those equipped with a hands-free device, while operating a transit vehicle; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for purposes of clarity, conformity, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 156, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 156, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Transportation,

JØSEPH M. SOUKI, Chair

## State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Twenty-fourth Legislature



## **Record of Votes of the Committee on Transportation**

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 156	Date: 2	-12-07		
Committee Referral: TRN, JUD	☐ The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.			
The recommendation is to:  Pass, unamended	Pa	ss, with amendment	S	
☐ Hold	Pass, with amendments, for recommittal for further consideration			
TRN Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. SOUKI, Joseph M. (C)				
2. NISHIMOTO, Scott Y. (VC)				
3. EVANS, Cindy				
4. HAR, Sharon E.				
5. LEE, Marilyn B.				
6. LUKE, Sylvia				
7. McKELVEY, Angus L.K.				
8. NAKASONE, Bob				
9. SONSON, Alex M.				
10. TAKAMINE, Dwight Y.				
11. TAKUMI, Roy M.				
12. MEYER, Colleen Rose				
13. PINE, Kymberly Marcos				
TOTAL	U	(	A 100 A	l
The recommendation is:  Adopted  If joint referral,  com  Vice Chair's or designee's signature:	mittee acronym	did not suppo	ort recommendation	n.
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee I	Duplicate (Yello	w) – Clerk's Office	44.44	