

From: Javier Loeza [javierhe@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2009 7:06 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: testimony on Bill # 1655

LATE TESTIMONY

To: Committee on Transportation

Chair: Joseph M. Souki

Hearing date: Wednesday, February 4, Conference Rm 309 , 8:30

From: Javier Loeza, University of Hawaii at Manoa student

Thank you Mr. Chairman and present committee members for allowing my testimony to be heard. I would like to begin by detailing a typical week for me which I hope gives the committee a full vivid picture of the implications that bill #1655 would have on a major part of our community. A typical week for me consist of going to school at the University of Hawaii at Manoa as a full time student. I also volunteer at the emergency room at Straub on thursdays and teach every other tuesday at one of the most poorest high schools in the state of hawaii, farrington High School. Above all this I manage to keep a part time job so that I can pay my way through school and I'm also an active researcher at JABSOM, the only medical school in the state of hawaii.

My choice of using a moped is not one out of pure joy but rather out of necessity. I'm paying my school through varies grants, scholarships, loans, and my own personal savings. To say the least I'm on a strictly tight budget. The implications that this bill would have on the young community, the community most at need and at financially fragile stages of our lifes, would be extremely negative to say the least. This bill would demand more money from the poorest and more time from the highly occupied. Furthermore, the timing of this bill could not come at a worst time. A time when we are seeing our loved ones being laid off and seeing their homes plummet in value, during these dire times a moped is seeing as a valuable cheap transportation. More over 5,000 UH students would be affected and countless others. I am asking the committee to strongly reconsider such a diseasterous bill. I know that for me I would be forced to take the bus which would signify that I would have to release myself from many of my responsibilities to the community, a thought that I greatly dread. I would also like to add that this bill has not been highly publized where it should (Universities) and that might be the main contribution to a low number of attendees at the hearing and low number of testimonies. Please do not consider a low turnout a lack of interest but rather a lack of knowledge of such a bill by the comunity. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Sincerely,

Javier Loeza

From: Peter Metchikoff [petermetchikoff@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2009 7:56 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: house bill #1655

LATE TESTIMONY

committee on transportation
chairperson representative Joseph M. Souki
vice-chairperson Karyn Leinani Awana

Hearing date: Wednesday, February 4, conference room 309, 8:30 am

I think this bill is a bad idea. It takes away the ease of getting around town in the simplest form. Adding more paperwork and cost to an earth-friendly mode of transport, will make me have second thoughts about keeping my moped. So then what? I drive my car and clog the already congested streets. If money is what you are after then get it from the rich not the starving students who barely have enough time to work to pay rent let alone the time to register for another license. This will also take away from the relaxed persona of Hawaii in general. Government needs to continue to stay small and help the people that honor it. Please take this letter into consideration in making your decision

Sincerely, Peter Metchikoff

3404 Alohea ave.
Honolulu HI 96816

awana3-Elenoa

From: Mitchell Neiss [mneiss@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2009 8:13 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: HB1655, Committee on Transportation, Chair, Joseph M. Souki

LATE TESTIMONY

Regarding bill HB1655, hearing date February 04, 2009, 8:30am

I, Mitchell C. Neiss, age 54, of 1350 Ala Moana Blvd, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96814, do own a moped, have read this seriously

flawed bill, and am strongly opposed to it. Mopeds contribute to less road traffic, offer a less expensive,

less fuel consumptive mode of transportation. Their use should be encouraged, not legislated into oblivion by additional

required fees. Additional costs will cause many moped riders to buy larger, more expensive, fuel consuming motorcycles,

and cars. Especially students, who have no place to park them.

If forced to, why pay basically the same licensing, registration, safety, and insurance fees for a much, much lower powered

vehicle that is not even freeway legal?

This will cause our local moped shops to close their doors in short order, costing jobs and tax revenue loss, exactly the

last thing government should be doing to our citizens in these disastrous economic times. Moped rental companies in

Waikiki, a mainstay tourist activity and convenience for decades, will also most likely cease to exist.

Please do not allow this bill to proceed further.

Sincerely Yours, with Aloha, Mitchell C. Neiss

awana3-Elenoa

From: Chad Lance Aranca [azn_808drfr@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2009 9:08 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: Hb 1655

LATE TESTIMONY

I Chad Lance Aranca have read bill # HB1655 and I own a moped. HB#1655 is Bad and unfair for many reason more then i can list. I am a hawaii resident and tax payer. I Strongly Oppose this BILL!
I thank you for your time and hope you can understand how this is a flawed bill that should not proceed further.
Aloha
Chad Lance Aranca

From: julie ancheta [julie0572000@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2009 9:11 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: HB 1655

LATE TESTIMONY

I Julie Ancheta have read bill # HB1655 and I own a moped. HB#1655 is Bad and unfair for many reason more then i can list. I am a hawaii resident and tax payer. I Strongly Oppose this BILL!.

I thank you for your time and hope you can understand how this is a flawed bill that should not proceed further.

Aloha

Julie Ancheta

awana3-Elenoa

From: Turn One [turn1hi@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2009 9:53 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: I vote NO to bill # HB1655

LATE TESTIMONY

I Sandra Sugimoto have read bill # HB1655. I own a Moped/business/car. HB#1655 is Bad and unfair for many reason more then i can list. I am a hawaii resident and tax payer. I Strongly Oppose this BILL!.

I thank you for your time and hope you can understand how this is a flawed bill that should not proceed further.

Aloha

Sandra Sugimoto

From: CycleImportsofHI@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2009 10:08 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: HB 1655 Opposition

LATE TESTIMONY

Committee on Transportation
Chair: Joseph M. Souki
The hearing for bill 1655 Wednesday, February 04, 2009
8:30 am - State Capitol - Conference room 309

From; George R. Burmeister
Dear Sirs;

I am the owner of the Business "Cycle Imports of Hawaii" based here on Oahu for the past 18 years. This letter is written in **opposition to HB 1655**. I have given testimony for the past 12 years on behalf of mopeds and the rules and regulations that govern them. You have heard from me many times in the past and commented on the vital information that I have provided you in the past Bills. I have more time and experience in this industry then most. My family has over 50 years in Hawaii's 2 wheel industry. I am a member of HMDA, & SBU also a resident of Hawaii as well as a Tax payer. I hope my opinion and views will be taken into serious consideration!

Once again I have been called on by many of the members in the "Moped" & retail community to write and submit testimony **OPPOSED to HB 1655**. This bill is flawed and has many more draw back then plusses to it. I hope that you will take the time to consider both sides to this and also read in detail how this will destroy many good tax paying business in Hawaii.

I can list many points as to why this bill should be killed. If you wish to hear them in detail please let me know. I am more then happy to sit down and meet with you or give verbal testimony as to the draw back, negative attributes and money losing reason why many strongly **OPPOSE HB 1655**.

I suggest you either kill the bill and save the tax payers time, money & hassle or atleast defer the bill to further review. Any future If you have any questions or need further information please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you for taking the time to review my testimony and its my hope that no future action is needed.

Aloha
George R. Burmeister

George R. Burmeister
President
Cycle Imports of Hawaii, LTD.
847 McCully St.
Honolulu, HI 96826
(808) 952-9253 Phone
(808) 952-0224 Fax

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awana3-Elenoa

From: MARK FROM HONOLULU [MARK@techemail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2009 9:49 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: I vote no to bill # HB1655

LATE TESTIMONY

I Mark Danao have read bill # HB1655. I own a Moped/business/car. HB#1655 is Bad and unfair for many reason more then i can list. I am a hawaii resident and tax payer. I Strongly Oppose this BILL!

I thank you for your time and hope you can understand how this is a flawed bill that should not proceed further.

Aloha

Mark Danao

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awana3-Elenoa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2009 10:23 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: cycleimportsofhi@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1655 on 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM
Attachments: HB bill 1655.doc

Testimony for TRN 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM HB1655

LATE TESTIMONY

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: George Burmeister / Cycle Imports of Hawaii
Organization: HMDA / SBU
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: cycleimportsofhi@aol.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2009

Comments:

This bill will cripple if not kill all moped business in the state of hawaii. This means a loss of all revenues from hawaii's Moped retail, service, Rental and accessories businesses. ALL the tourists that rent mopeds and contribute to our struggling economy will be lost as well as all the tax dollars the state gets from our industry. It is time that you kill this bill!

Thank you
Concerned Tax payer

From: Joe Weite [londonbobby@Hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2009 10:39 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: moped Law

I think having moped riders file for a license plate is plain wrong! Most people on Mopeds are students and low income people. This will raise the state with more bureaucratic nightmares.
Most people on mopeds are law abiding citizens, Don't let a couple of bad apples ruin it for everyone! I do agree with a helmet law for ALL motorcycles and mopeds.

Joe Weite
92-619 Auwaea St.
Kapolei, Hi. 96707

LATE TESTIMONY

awana3-Elenoa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2009 11:12 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: viper4shane@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1655 on 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for TRN 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM HB1655

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Shane Loui
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: viper4shane@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2009

LATE TESTIMONY

Comments:

awana3-Elenoa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2009 11:29 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: lauherman@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1655 on 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM
Attachments: HB 1655.doc

Testimony for TRN 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM HB1655

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Herman Lau
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: lauherman@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2009

LATE TESTIMONY

Comments:

I (Herman Lau) have read bill # HB1655. I own a moped. HB#1655 is bad and unfair for many reasons more then I can list. I am a Hawaii resident and tax payer. I Strongly Oppose this BILL!

- With this bad economy, we can hardly afford gas, parking, and transportation. If HB 1655 is passed, majority of moped owners will have to give up owning a moped due the cost of annual registration, scooter operating licensing, insurance, and annual safety check.
- Only a few of the mass majority of moped owners are even aware of this bill. We were not notified or prepared; therefore it is unfair representation of us - moped owners to oppose this bill.
- Classifying 49cc mopeds as moped/bicycle category gives the working class/students/enthusiasts a moment of freedom to commute, explore, and enjoy the island's weather and scenery.

I thank you for your time and hope you can understand how this is a flawed bill that should not proceed further.

Sincerely,
Herman Lau

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2009 11:48 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: donald.adelstein@navy.mil
Subject: Testimony for HB1655 on 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for TRN 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM HB1655

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Donald Adelstein
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: donald.adelstein@navy.mil
Submitted on: 2/3/2009

LATE TESTIMONY
LATE TESTIMONY

Comments:
Strongly oppose this bill and the expense that it will have on my household. Mopeds help to decrease traffic and parking issues which will no longer be the case if this bill is allowed to pass.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2009 11:59 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: hunnyb@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1655 on 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for TRN 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM HB1655

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Honey L. Adelstein
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: hunnyb@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2009

LATE TESTIMONY

Comments:

I oppose this bill. The cost that it will cause me will force me to use my car instead and this will add to my cost and to congested freeway. Mopeds allow people to remain only on city streets freeing up other roads and the freeway. This bill will result in much more people having to chose between a car or moped because the insurance and tax cost will be to much of a burden.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2009 12:20 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: gsxr@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1655 on 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for TRN 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM HB1655

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: George
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: gsxr@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/4/2009

LATE TESTIMONY

Comments:

I oppose the bill hb1655. It is very unclear and unfair. It just adds a moped to a motorcycle class. mopeds are nothing like a motorcycle, and should not be thrown into the same class as a motorcycle.

awana3-Elenoa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2009 12:35 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: federalman808@vzw.blackberry.net
Subject: Testimony for HB1655 on 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for TRN 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM HB1655

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Wenona Johnson
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: federalman808@vzw.blackberry.net Submitted on: 2/4/2009

LATE TESTIMONY

Comments:

awana3-Elenoa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2009 12:28 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: donn808@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1655 on 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for TRN 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM HB1655

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Don Martin
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: donn808@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/4/2009

LATE TESTIMONY

Comments:

awana3-Elenoa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2009 1:32 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: strictlyeuropn@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1655 on 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for TRN 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM HB1655

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jay Bolosan
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: strictlyeuropn@aol.com
Submitted on: 2/4/2009

LATE TESTIMONY

Comments:

Hello Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am opposing this bill as these are trying and hard times. And riding a moped or scooter is saving me and fellow mechanics money on gas and maintenance on our vehicles that we normally use to travel to our jobs. The automotive industry is seriously suffering already, tons of local dealerships, automobile repair facilities, small and large, are minimizing workers and cutting wages. So, this bill will not help us if this bill passes, and incur's annual charges for our two wheeled vehicles. Albeit it may be a small fee, but these days every penny we can pinch counts to maintain our daily needs for our families. So please reconsider passing this bill, for alot of us are just hardworking people living paycheck by paycheck in this paradise. And also students who are struggling to get by,day by day.

Thank You For Listening

Jay Bolosan

awana3-Elenoa

From: eric low [mopedcompany25@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2009 12:36 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: OPPOSITION TO BILL HB1655

Committee on Transportation
Chair : Joseph M. Souki
Wed. Feb. 4, 2009 8:30 State Capitol 309
Eric Low President
The Moped Company

LATE TESTIMONY

To Whom It May Concern,

As an owner of a moped parts, sales (used), and service business, I strongly oppose HB1655. This bill will require mopeds to be registered as motor vehicles and require insurance and safety checks. This will make the moped (one of the most economical form of transportation) not so economical anymore. The reason why people buy mopeds in the first place is: it's affordable, NO INSURANCE required, NO SAFETY CHECK required, and a driver's license to operate. If the moped turns into a vehicle, there is NO BENEFIT to having a moped. People will buy scooters, motorcycles, and cars for their transportation needs. That would put me and the rest of the moped industry out of business!

The economy is going through a recession, people are losing their jobs. For many this is their main mode of transportation. Making it more expensive during these troubled times is not a good idea.

On behalf of my staff and the moped industry as a whole, I strongly urge you to NOT vote for this bill. It will be detrimental to my business as well as all those related to the moped industry.

Thank you for your consideration

Eric Low
President

The Moped Company
748 Kapahulu Ave.
Honolulu, HI 96816
808-735-8887

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awana3-Elenoa

From: Gerry &Holly Hollins [gh629@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2009 6:10 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: Committee on Transportation, House Bill #1655

LATE TESTIMONY

To Chairman Joseph M. Souki and Committee at Large,

In reference to House Bill #1655,

My name is Gerain Hollins and I am the owner of Mid-Pacific Wheels in Hilo, Hawaii. We're a bicycle shop that has been in operation for over 30 years and in the past year we have also expanded to sell mopeds. With the current status, they have proven to be a reasonable alternative to transportation for the student population in Hilo. We primarily deal with college students who used these to negotiate the hills and the terrain in Hilo town. If you change their status to be that of a motorcycle, you will severely limit their transportation options. Presently, as the law stands, there is no need for a motorcycle license. Mopeds, under that classification should only be operable of up to 30 miles per hour. This has been an immense help to most college students who have very limited funds to begin with. To burden these students with insurance and acquiring a motorcycle license, would be unwarranted at this point. I would strongly request that you do not change the current status of a moped with this bill.

Sincerely,

Gerain Hollins, Owner
Mid-Pacific Wheels
1133-C Manono Street
Hilo, HI 96720
Phone: (808) 935-6211
Fax: (808) 935-7943
Email: gh629@hawaiiantel.net

awana3-Elenoa

From: SUZUKIHI@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2009 6:02 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: HB1655 Testimony Submission
Attachments: HB1655 Moped Lic. Test.doc

LATE TESTIMONY

Please accept my attached testimony on HB1655

Hearing date Feb. 4, 2009 @ 8:30 AM Conference room 309

Committee on Transportation: Chair Joseph M. Souki

Mahalo,

Ross K Montgomery

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2009 6:41 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: hiikea@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1655 on 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony for TRN 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM HB1655

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Robert Wagoner
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: hiikea@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/4/2009

Comments:

I am strongly opposed to this bill and the unnecessary financial burden that it will place on me. This bill serves no purpose but to punish those that chose alternate transportation means and will only contribute to more cars on roads. please vote against this bill.

awana3-Elenoa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2009 6:54 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: sailormoon_808@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1655 on 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony for TRN 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM HB1655

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jonathan tupua
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: sailormoon_808@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/4/2009

Comments:

I oppose bill HB1655. For a city that is trying to push alternative modes of transportation, passage of this bill will accomplish the exact opposite. This bill will force me to have to hold down ANOTHER insurance policy as well as pay vehicle tax on top of safety check costs. This hurts people trying to make money in these hard economic times. Bicyclist and people who ride mopeds should be rewarded for their sacrifices not punished. The system works fine the way it is, please do not over burden me with more government. Thank you.

awana3-Elenoa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2009 6:22 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: ezemaxima@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1655 on 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony for TRN 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM HB1655

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Eric Recolizado
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: ezemaxima@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/4/2009

Comments:
I live on the Island of Maui..

awana3-Elenoa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2009 4:52 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: renditions2000@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1655 on 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony for TRN 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM HB1655

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: James Ortiz
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: renditions2000@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/4/2009

Comments:

awana3-Elenoa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2009 6:24 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: randy2468@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1655 on 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony for TRN 2/4/2009 8:30:00 AM HB1655

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ronald Pagdilao
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: randy2468@msn.com
Submitted on: 2/4/2009

Comments:
Im from Maui

From: vaughn wesley vea [wess1405@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2009 5:06 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: TRNtestimony
Subject: i OPPOSE hb1655 moped liscence requirement

LATE TESTIMONY

hi there, my name is Wesley Vea and my primary transportation is my moped. its a really cheap way of transportation and its good for me because i dont make enough income. i STRONGLY OPPOSE this bill because our economy is already harsh and having to have mopeds to be in the same category as motorcycles will be insane. i know that most peolpe chose to use a moped as their way of transportation because its cheap and it didnt require insurance and having to go take safety checks. to me this bill will just make our lives even more stressfull than its already is.