

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR

JAMES R. AIONA, JR.  
LT. GOVERNOR



KURT KAWAFUCHI  
DIRECTOR OF TAXATION

SANDRA L. YAHIRO  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION  
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**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
TESTIMONY REGARDING HB 53  
RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES**

**TESTIFIER: KURT KAWAFUCHI, DIRECTOR OF TAXATION (OR DESIGNEE)**

**DATE: FEBRUARY 11, 2009**

**TIME: 8:30AM**

**ROOM: 309**

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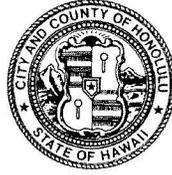
This measure clarifies the application of HRS § 249-10(c), which relates to a vehicular weight tax assessed on motor vehicles, including antique motor vehicles. This measure allows owners of such vehicles to operate on public roads in certain limited circumstances.

The Department of Taxation (Department) takes **no position** on this measure, **assuming there is no revenue loss** as a result of this legislation. **Should there be a revenue impact, the Department will oppose this measure due to lack of budgeted funding** and projected constraints in the financial plan.

The Department points out that this measure does not include a referral to the Finance committee. Should it be determined that a revenue loss will result from this measure, the Department suggests the bill be re-referred to include Finance's consideration.

DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES  
**CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU**  
DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLE, LICENSING AND PERMITS  
ADMINISTRATION  
P.O. BOX 30300  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96820-0300

MUFI HANNEMANN  
MAYOR



DANA TAKAHARA-DIAS  
DIRECTOR

DENNIS A KAMIMURA  
LICENSING ADMINISTRATOR

February 8, 2009

The Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Chair  
and Committee Members  
Committee on Transportation  
House of Representatives  
State of Hawaii  
State Capitol, Room 403  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Souki and Committee Members:

Subject: H.B. No. 53, Relating to Motor Vehicles

The City and County of Honolulu is opposed to H.B. No. 53 which will exempt motor vehicle weight taxes and fees for vehicles that meet the definition of antiques and expands the purpose that such vehicles may operate on public roads.

We have no objections to the expansion of the purposes that antiques may operate on public roads.

The initial intent of limiting the county motor vehicle weight tax to \$10.00 was because of the limited use of antique vehicles on public roads. The state weight tax is charged to antique vehicles only because the \$10 exemption is limited to taxes imposed in Sections 249-1 to 249-13 and the state weight tax and registration fee is imposed under Sections 249-31 to 249-34.

With the current economic conditions and our fiscal challenges, the City and County of Honolulu cannot support passage of this bill.

The City and County of Honolulu recommends that H.B. No. 53 be held.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis A. Kamimura".

DENNIS A. KAMIMURA  
Licensing Administrator

DAK:bk

SECOND OF TWO TESTIMONIES FOR HB53 HEARING  
February 11, 2009, 8:30 a.m., Room 309

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2009  
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
Representative Joseph M. Souki, Chair  
Representative Karen Leinani Awana, Vice-Chair

RE: TESTIMONY FOR HB53 RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES, PART II

Chair Souki, Vice-Chair Awana, and Members of the Transportation Committee:

I have another concern, an issue that is related to the "Horseless Carriage" ("HC") number plates or license plates.

I am unable to install my set of "HC" license plates on my car because the holes do not properly align with the frames which are designed to receive regular license plates. Also, the holes are elongated thus deviating from the round holes of regular license plates. In order to install my plates, the holes would have to be widened and that would cause part of the holes to be exposed because they would not be fully covered by the frame tabs. This is a design flaw that creates an unnecessary inconvenience to the car owner and at the same time presents an aesthetic problem which needs to be addressed. I believe this situation can readily be resolved by legislation.

May I refer you to the document entitled VEHICLE WEIGHT TAX provided by the Legislative Reference Bureau. The part related to the issue I have presented is: **S249-9 Number plates; purchase**. At the end of this part is an opinion stated by the Attorney General headed: **Attorney General Opinions**. It reads: **All motor vehicle number plates must be uniform in all respects including the reflective material**.

I wish to request that the Attorney General's opinion be incorporated in HB53 to become an integral part of a revised law relating to motor vehicles. If this is accomplished, new specifications for the "HC" number plates can be issued to make them uniform with regular license plates. The inadequacies of the old law pertaining to certified antique motor vehicles would be remedied and I as well as other owners of "HC" vehicles would be fully satisfied.

I truly appreciate the opportunity to express my concerns and to make the requests I have

Testimony for HB53 Relating to Motor Vehicles, Part II  
Page 2

submitted for your consideration. Thank you very much for your kind attention.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Teramoto", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Setsuko Teramoto  
Constituent, 24<sup>th</sup> District  
E-mail: [teramo8@aol.com](mailto:teramo8@aol.com)