



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
January 27, 2010

The Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Chair
House Committee on Transportation
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representative Souki and Members of the Committee:

**SUBJECT: HB 1859 – RELATING TO FUNDING FOR PARKING FOR
DISABLED PERSONS**

The position and views expressed in this testimony do not represent nor reflect the position and views of the Department of Health.

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities **SUPPORTS THE INTENT OF HB 1859**. The purpose of this bill is to increase the State motor vehicle registration fee to be paid into the Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) special fund to enforce parking for disabled program. The bill also deletes funding for State credentialing for interpreters under the special fund.

The Council appreciates the Legislature's initiative to designate \$1.00 from the annual motor vehicle registration fee into DCAB's special fund to administer and support the Parking for Disabled program. This seems to be a reasonable alternative to generate revenue to sustain the program. We defer to DCAB for the fiscal impact on the amount of funds the \$1.00 fee would generate.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB 1859.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Waynette K.Y. Cabral".

Waynette K.Y. Cabral
Executive Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rosie Rowe".

Rosie Rowe
Chair



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 101 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V/TDD) • Fax (808) 586-8129

January 27, 2010

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill 1859 - Relating to Funding for Parking for Disabled Persons

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) strongly supports House Bill 1859 to amend Section 249-31, Hawaii Revised Statutes, increasing the motor vehicle registration fee by \$1 to pay for the parking program for persons with disabilities. DCAB is the State agency responsible for the overall coordination and administration of this federally required program.

The parking program consists of a centralized, Internet-based database operated by DCAB staff, issuance of the placards by the counties at twenty-two (22) locations, and accessed by law enforcement personnel. In FY 2009, 33,212 placards were issued. DCAB expects the number to increase to 38,216 for current FY 2010. A total of 73,817 individuals held active placards as of June 2009. DCAB also conducts quality assurance by cross-referencing death records, sending out reminder notices, retrieving, destroying, and shredding 9,245 placards in FY 2009.

The program currently is 100% general funded. The central costs are approximately \$288,774 for supplies (purchasing placards, decals, identification card stock, application forms, operation of the central database, and central staff). The program currently consists of the issuance of the permits by the counties at a cost of \$397,764 in FY 2009. We expect the FY 2010 costs to the counties to be a minimum of \$458,592 based upon projections for this year.

Given the aging of our population and the projected increase in the number of people who are eligible for placards, the program will be a financial drain on the general fund. This bill proposes to create a revenue stream from the motor vehicle registration fee with a modest assessment of \$1 on the motor vehicles. We believe that this nominal increase will ensure the continued existence of this program in a manner that ensures quality and integrity of the program and not detract from the general fund. This bill also amends Section 348F-7 to change the use of the DCAB Special Fund to allow the receipt and expenditure of the money. DCAB has spoken with the counties to ensure that this is administratively feasible, although have been cautioned that projected income should not be counted upon for six (6) months.

We strongly urge your passage of this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important issue.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES FLEMING
Chairperson
Legislative Committee

FRANCINE WAI
Executive Director

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



BRENNON T. MORIOKA
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
MICHAEL D. FORMBY
FRANCIS PAUL KEENO
BRIAN H. SEKIGUCHI
JIRO A. SUMADA

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

IN REPLY REFER TO:

January 27, 2010

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1859

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill 1859 proposes to increase the state motor vehicle registration fee by \$1 from \$25 to \$26 and deposit \$1 from each annual vehicle registration fee into the disability and communication access board (DCAB) special fund under section 348F-7.

The Department of Transportation (DOT) is not able to support this bill. We understand that there may be other proposals being considered that would make this request unnecessary. We also want to point out that the Highways Division is also looking for new ways to generate revenues to support the operations, maintenance and construction of the State Highway System as part of the proposed Highway Modernization Plan. The motor vehicle registration fee is a major source of revenues for the State Highway Fund and provided \$20.8 million or 10.6 % of the total revenues for FY 2009.

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



GAIL Y. HARAGUCHI
DIRECTOR

DENNIS A KAMIMURA
LICENSING ADMINISTRATOR

January 25, 2010

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. 1859, Relating to Funding For Parking For Disabled Persons

The City and County of Honolulu has no objections to H.B. No. 1860 which will require the addition of \$1 to the State registration fee.

In order to accomplish the appropriate changes to the various computer programs, we request that the effective date of the bill be amended to November 1, 2010.

The City and County of Honolulu urges your favorable action on H.B. No. 1859, as amended.

Sincerely,


for Gail Y. Haraguchi
Director

Mark T. Obatake
94-1062 Kahimoe Place
Waipahu, Hawaii 96797

January 27, 2010

The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Transportation
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Honored Chair Souki, Vice-Chair Awana, and Committee Members:

As a person with a chronic disability, I strongly recommend the passage of HB 1859 with no amendments, Relating To Funding For Parking For Disabled Persons. The bill ensures that the State of Hawaii disability parking placard program will have the necessary funds to continue services for citizens with disabilities.

The Americans With Disabilities Act was a landmark federal legislation passed in 1990, which secured the rights of people with disabilities to have equal access and opportunities in our country. I have seen the changes in the every day life of people with disabilities from first-hand accounts and as a previous professional in the field of human services. There were so many obstacles growing up as a child in Hawaii. My parents had to do almost everything for me. However, I currently live independently with my wife and sons today due largely to the access in the community provided by the law. I need to use a powered wheelchair, which means that a modified van gets me from place to place. The accessible parking stalls are specifically designed to provide access, so that I am able to exit my vehicle. Without these stalls and without the administration of the placard program, my ability to live in the community would be severely hampered.

HB 1859 establishes a funding mechanism that is tied to vehicle registration. The amount per vehicle is negligible and is logical in connecting vehicle registration to a vehicle utilization issue. In these economic times, where the State is unable to generate dollars for its general fund, HB 1859 provides the means to (1) assist the State's growing population of citizens with disabilities and (2) fulfill the State's own mandate to administer the disability parking program.

It is my hope that your committee will pass HB 1859 without amendments. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark T. Obatake

TO: House Committee on Transportation
Wednesday, Jan. 27, 2010 at 8:30 a.m.
Conference Room 309

FROM: Kirby L. Shaw
425 Ena Road, #706-A
Honolulu, HI 96815
k.shaw@hawaii.rr.com
944-0828

SUBJ: HB 1859 - RELATING TO FUNDING FOR PARKING FOR DISABLED PERSONS

Rep. Joseph M. Souki, Chair
Rep. Karen Leinani Awana, Vice-Chair
Members of the House Committee on Transportation
Kirby L. Shaw – Individual with a disability, parking placard holder
Wednesday, January 27, 2010

Support for HB 1859 - Relating to Funding for Parking for Disabled Persons

Dear Transportation Committee,

I am an individual with a disability who uses a power wheelchair. I have a van that deploys a ramp from the passenger side of the vehicle. I need to park my van in a parking space reserved for persons with disabilities that provides an adjacent access aisle. Because I have a parking placard, I am able to use such parking spaces. Thus, HB 1859, Relating to Funding for Parking for Disabled Persons, is of significant interest to me.

I am writing to express strong support for HB 1859. The bill raises the annual motor vehicle registration fee by \$1 for deposit into the Disability and Communication Access Board special fund to cover the costs of administering the disability parking program under Chapter 291, Part III, HRS.

The parking placard affords me and others with disabilities who require either an access aisle to deploy a mobility device or close proximity to a facility's entrance the ability to conduct business, grocery shop, visit the doctor, see a movie, dine at a restaurant, and attend community meetings, etc. Thus, it is important that the parking program remain intact and adequately funded to allow persons with disabilities to generate economic activity and to participate in society.

Raising the annual registration fee by \$1 for each motor vehicle is a nominal amount to ensure that the disability parking program continues to give persons with disabilities the ability to generate economic activity and to participate in society. In light of the current State budget shortfall and looking toward the future, an eventual, fully funded special fund for the disability parking program would provide a stable funding source to foster desirable economic activity and societal participation by persons with disabilities. Significantly, the special fund for the disability parking program would result in savings to the General Fund.

Therefore, **I urge the committee to support this bill.** Thank you for considering my testimony. Please contact me by mail, e-mail, or phone if you have any questions. Mahalo nui.

Sincerely,

/s/
KIRBY L. SHAW

awana1-Enoka

From: C.Fleming/ M. Lu [kahuna00@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Monday, January 25, 2010 3:02 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Subject: HB 1859 and HB 1860

Honorable Committee Members,

I'm contacting you to express my strong support for passage of the above bills.

Although Federal law mandates to the states responsibility for the provision of handicap parking placards to qualified disabled persons,

as a person with a disability who uses a wheelchair, I am particularly concerned that a secure funding source is established to ensure their ongoing availability in Hawaii.

Also, I believe that it is imperative to designate a state agency with the responsibility and accountability to implement the parking program in such manner to provide for efficient and equitable distribution of parking placards and maintain an effective data system to make sure placards are issued only to qualified disabled persons.

These bills, if enacted, will provide for just such a system.

Thank for your consideration.

**Charles W. Fleming
75-310 W. Kakalina PL.
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740
kuna00@hawaiiantel.net**