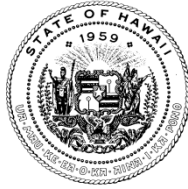


SB 611

RELATING TO USE OF INTOXICANTS WHILE OPERATING A VEHICLE.

Allows an ignition interlock permit holder to take necessary tests to apply for relicensing during the final 30 days of the revocation period. Prohibits operating a vehicle with an ignition interlock permit without a state identification card. Prohibits operating a vehicle once a notice of administrative record has expired unless the driver has a valid driver's license.



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

IN REPLY REFER TO:

February 3, 2015
2:45 pm
State Capitol, Room 229

S.B. 611
RELATING TO USE OF INTOXICANTS WHILE OPERATING A VEHICLE

Senate Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** S.B. 611 relating to the use of intoxicants while operating a vehicle. This bill will allow an ignition interlock permit (IIP) holder to take the necessary tests when applying for relicensing 30 days prior to the revocation period. It prohibits the operation of a vehicle with an IIP without a state identification card and once a notice of administrative records has expired unless the driver has a valid driver's license.

To expedite the reissue of the driver's license once the revocation period has expired, the DOT supports the courtesy to the holder of the IIP as the relicensing process has been taking a longer time due to the volume of driver license testing. The DOT also believes that the current IIP (a printed paper document) is not sufficient to identify the identity of the person on it. Issuing an authentic document will help law enforcement identify the holder of the IIP as the operator of the vehicle by possessing this supporting document.

The DOT urges your support in passing S.B. 611 as it will assist the driver in the relicensing process and law enforcement to verify the holder of the IIP.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 529-3111 · INTERNET: www.honolulu-pd.org



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MAYOR

LOUIS M. KEALOHA
CHIEF

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MARIE A. McCAULEY
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE CT-GR

February 3, 2015

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
and Members
Committee on Transportation
State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 611, Relating to Use of Intoxicants While Operating a Vehicle

I am Calvin Tong, Major of the Traffic Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu. The HPD supports the passage of Senate Bill No. 611, Relating to Use of Intoxicants While Operating a Vehicle.

Currently, a driver whose license is revoked for Operating a Vehicle Under the Influence of an Intoxicant (OVUII) cannot begin the relicensing process until the end of his or her revocation period. In order to be relicensed, drivers must take the written examination, obtain an instructional permit, and schedule a road test, all of which may take several months before being fully licensed. In the interim, drivers with an ignition interlock device who could drive unsupervised during their revocation period must then have a licensed driver with them while they wait for full licensure.

Allowing drivers with a valid ignition interlock permit the opportunity to complete their written and road tests prior to the end of their revocation period would create an additional incentive to install an ignition interlock device, leading to safer roadways. In addition, allowing responsible drivers to be fully relicensed immediately following their revocation period provides them with the opportunity to continue driving legally.

Currently, drivers who have a valid ignition interlock permit are not required to show any form of photo identification when stopped by law enforcement. Requiring drivers to have a valid State of Hawaii identification card allows law enforcement officers statewide the ability to positively identify drivers with ignition interlock permits and verify his or her license and permit status.

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
and Members
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February 3, 2015

Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Section 291E-62 makes it illegal for a driver whose license is revoked for OVUII to intentionally or knowingly operate a vehicle while his or her license remains suspended or revoked. This law creates a greater burden of proof on the prosecution in these cases, requiring the State to prove that the driver knew his or her license was revoked at the time of the alleged offense. Evidence to prove the driver's knowledge of his or her license status is nearly impossible to admit into evidence at trial.

Allowing prosecutors to admit a Notice of Administrative Revocation (NOAR), which is issued by a law enforcement officer to almost all persons arrested for OVUII, in lieu of having to prove a driver knew his or her license was revoked is significantly more in keeping with the intent of HRS Section 291E-62.

The HPD urges you to support Senate Bill No. 611, Relating to Use of Intoxicants While Operating a Vehicle.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



CALVIN TONG, Major
Traffic Division

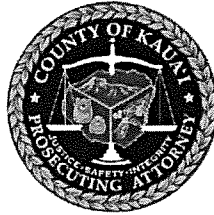
APPROVED:



LOUIS M. KEALOHA
Chief of Police

Justin F. Kollar
Prosecuting Attorney

Kevin K. Takata
First Deputy



Rebecca A. Vogt
Second Deputy

Diana Gausepohl-White
Victim/Witness Program Director

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

County of Kaua'i, State of Hawai'i

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Victim/Witness Program 808-241-1898 or 800-668-5734

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
SB611 – RELATING TO USE OF INTOXICANTS WHILE OPERATING A VEHICLE**

**Justin F. Kollar, Prosecuting Attorney
County of Kaua'i**

**Senate Committee on Transportation
February 3, 2015, 2:45 p.m., Conference Room 229**

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Harimoto, and Members of the Committee:

The County of Kaua'i, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** SB611 – Relating to Use of Intoxicants While Operating a Vehicle. The Bill addresses various loopholes within the existing statutes pertaining to the IIP and Driver License issuing statutes.

Under existing law, a driver whose license expires prior to the end of a revocation period cannot take steps to relicense until after the license expires, which results in various unintended consequences. More importantly, this Bill provides that a motorist operating a vehicle with an IIP will have to have a valid State-issued photo ID. The current IIP does not bear sufficient indicia to ensure that its holder and the person operating the vehicle are actually the same person.

Accordingly, we are in **STRONG SUPPORT** of SB611. We request that your Committee **PASS** the Bill.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin F. Kollar", written in a cursive style.

Justin F. Kollar
Prosecuting Attorney



Mothers Against Drunk Driving HAWAII
745 Fort Street, Suite 303
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone (808) 532-6232
Fax (808) 532-6004
hi.state@madd.org

February 3, 2015

To: Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair — Senate Committee on
Transportation; Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair, and members of the
Committee

From: Arkie Koehl/Carol McNamee—Co-chairmen, Public Policy Committee -
MADD Hawaii

Re: Senate Bill 611 – Relating to Use of Intoxicants while Operating a Vehicle

I am Carol McNamee, offering testimony on behalf of the Hawaii Chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving in support of Senate Bill 611. This measure amends provisions in the statutes relating to the use of an Ignition Interlock device and the permit which enables drivers to legally drive an ignition interlock equipped vehicle on Hawaii roads.

This bill covers three issues:

First is a “reality issue” about the way our current re-licensing system works. The statutes (HRS 291 E 45, 291 E 61) state that a person whose license has been revoked for OVUII is eligible to reapply for a driver’s license at the end of the official revocation period if he or she has complied with various requirements. However, there seems to be a long waiting period before a person can actually take the necessary written and road test to be considered for a new license. This wait period can be weeks or even months. Meanwhile, the person’s license remains revoked during the waiting period and he or she cannot drive unless the ignition interlock remains on the vehicle and the interlock permit is kept by the driver. But, the permit expires the day the revocation ends. This results in an unexpected additional cost to the driver to keep the interlock device – and at the same time he has no valid permit to legally drive – even with the Interlock.

SB 611 would allow a person with a valid interlock permit to take required tests to apply for a new license 30 days (or less) before the end of the revocation period so that the new license can be issued much closer to the actual termination of the revocation period and the interlock device can be removed and the permit will automatically expire.

The end result of this amendment to the statutes is that the interlock user would not incur additional service charges over what was expected, provided he was in compliance with all requirements for obtaining a new license, and the ability to apply for a license a month earlier for interlock users would encourage drivers to keep the interlock installed in their vehicles for the full revocation period rather than uninstalling the device early. MADD would like to see interlock users keep the device on their vehicle for the full time period because we suspect that the individuals uninstalling the interlock are the riskier revoked drivers.

The second issue included in SB 611 relates to enforcement of the requirement for using an interlock device by all individuals who wish to legally drive after their license has been revoked for OVUII. Enforcement has been difficult because the current Ignition Interlock permit is a plain piece of unlaminated paper that does not include any photo to identify the holder of the permit. This situation creates several problems for police including reducing their capability for arresting those who may be violating provisions of the interlock law...such as driving a non-interlocked vehicle.

To increase the ability of law enforcement to correctly identify a person presenting an interlock permit, this bill would require a driver to have a Hawaii State ID card in the vehicle along with an Ignition Interlock permit whenever the person is operating a vehicle. In Task Force discussions this solution seemed more acceptable to our county Departments of Motor Vehicles than producing a special license-type permit for all interlock users.

The third issue addresses the issue of a person receiving “notice” that his or her driver’s license is officially revoked after an arrest for OVUII, meaning that after a certain date the person cannot legally drive a vehicle on Hawaii roads unless the vehicle is interlock-equipped. We know that national statistics indicate that 50 to 75% of people whose license has been revoked will choose to chance driving anyway, without a valid license. They may reduce their time on the road, but nonetheless, they are driving illegally and posing a risk to innocent people on our roads and highways.

When apprehended by law enforcement, some of these individuals driving illegally are professing that they did not know their temporary permit (issued for 30 days for those driving under the influence of alcohol or 45 days for those driving under the influence of other drugs) was not still valid. They say they had no knowledge that they were no longer able to drive legally. *(To clarify, this permit is different from the Ignition Interlock permit.)*

SB 611 would make it clear that the “Notice of Administrative Drivers License Revocation” serves as legal notice since it clearly states the number of days for which the temporary permit is valid. It is mailed by the ADLR Office to the address on the person’s revoked license as verified by police at the time of arrest.

If the Administrative Revocation office does not sustain the revocation, the driver’s license is returned to the individual and if he or she can produce the license, any arrest for “driving on a revoked license” (291E-62) would be voided.

MADD believes that all three provisions of this bill are important to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our current OVUII statutes which will ultimately reduce alcohol related crashes. We encourage the committee to pass SB611. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

