

DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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February 17, 2015

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

House Bill 1154 – Relating to Funding for Parking for Disabled Persons

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) strongly supports House Bill 1154 Relating to Funding for Parking for Disabled Persons. The purpose of this bill is to increase the annual vehicle registration fee by \$1.00, which will be deposited into the DCAB accessible parking account within the DCAB Special Fund to cover the costs of administering parking for persons with disabilities.

This bill was passed out of conference committee in 2011, but was deferred on the last day of the session due to a technical flaw in the drafting of the bill. As the Legislature supported the bill in 2011, we ask that you take the same action by supporting this bill.

DCAB is the State agency responsible for the overall coordination and administration of this federally required program. The parking program is managed through a centralized, Internetbased database operated by DCAB staff. DCAB enters into memorandums of agreement with the counties to issue first time and replacement placards on a walk-in basis at the satellite city halls. The renewals are issued through a mail-in process by the DCAB office.

The program now is one hundred percent general funded, expect for a small portion of revenue collected for replacement and temporary placards which is retained by the counties. The revenue generated will allow the program to be self-sufficient. This bill would finance the program through a new source of revenue in lieu of the general fund. This bill proposes to create a revenue stream from the motor vehicle registration fee. 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 tap into valuable, limited general funds.

Because the placard is transferable to any vehicle and only vehicles can park in accessible parking stalls, this program actually benefits all vehicle owners who potentially can transport a person with a placard. This is a more appropriate financing mechanism than the general fund.

We recommend an effective date of July 1, 2016 to allow the counties to reprogram their computers. We ask that you not make any adjustments to our budget this year. Should this bill pass in 2015, DCAB will submit a supplemental budget request to reduce our general fund appropriation by approximately \$503,000.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment.

Respectfully submitted,

BARBARA FISCHLOWITZ Chairperson Legislative Committee

John L. Jackson for FRANCINE WAI Executive Director

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR



Testimony of FORD N. FUCHIGAMI DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors JADE T. BUTAY ROSS M. HIGASHI EDWIN H. SNIFFEN DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

February 17, 2015 9:00 a.m. State Capitol, Room 329

H.B. 1154 RELATING TO FUNDING FOR PARKING FOR DISABLED PERSONS

House Committee on Human Services

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **opposes** House Bill 1154 which proposes to increase the state motor vehicle registration fee by \$1 to be deposited into the disability and communication access board special fund to cover the costs of administering the parking program for persons with disabilities.

The Highways Division is looking for new ways to generate revenues to support the operations, maintenance and construction of the State Highway System, and any increase in the state motor vehicle registration fee revenues should be deposited into the State Highway Fund. The motor vehicle registration fee is a major source of revenues for the State Highway Fund and provided \$43.1 million or 16.9 % of the total revenues for FY 2014.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

kobayashi2-Lynda

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov		
Sent:	Sunday, February 15, 2015 9:17 PM		
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<u>HB1154</u>

Submitted on: 2/15/2015 Testimony for HUS on Feb 17, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William R Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill. This is a fair and viable source of revenue for DCAB, and may result in using less general funds for the program.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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ART FRANK 84-718 FARRINGTON HWY WAIANAE, HI 96792-1906 FEBRUARY 16, 2015

HB 1154 (HSCR203) RELATING TO FUNDING FOR PARKING FOR DISABLED PERSONS.

My name is Art Frank from Makaha on the Waianae Coast. I utilize braces and crutches for mobility so I am a user of the Disabled Parking Placard and the Disabled Parking Stall itself. I have testified in support of Disabled Parking bills for over 30 years and have probably supported dozens of Disabled Parking bills during this period. I fully support HB 1154 because I'm positive the DCAB needs the additional funding in order to make the Disabled Parking Program work for us, the disabled consumer. I am also convinced this isn't a nice to have item but absolutely necessary because I have been working closely with DCAB for over 30 years. There have been a few times in all these years I haven't agreed with DCAB and have stated so at this legislature. In this particular case I support this bill and DCAB 101 percent because as I stated previously this bill is an absolute necessity and I trust DCAB to do the right job for those of us who utilize Disabled Parking. Unfortunately since I will be testifying on a separate bill in another committee this morning I will not be able to testify before your esteem committee. Thank you very much.

ART FRANK MAKAHA, WAIANAE COAST