

TESTIMONY BY:

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STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

869 PUNCHBOWL STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 26, 2019 1:10 p.m. State Capitol, Room 211

S.B. 410 RELATING TO TRAFFIC CODE

Senate Committee(s) on Ways and Means and Judiciary

The Department of Transportation **supports** S.B. 410 which increases the penalties for those who violate the pedestrians' right-of-way in crosswalks.

According to the Fatality Analysis Reporting System, there were 108 motor vehicle related fatalities on Hawaii's roadways in 2019. Of those fatalities, 37 or 34%, were pedestrians.

Increasing the penalties can help reduce the amount of pedestrian fatalities by making drivers more aware of the presence of pedestrians on and near the roadways, especially in crosswalks.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU



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KIRK CALDWELL MAYOR



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OUR REFERENCE CT-LC

February 26, 2020

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair and Members
Committee on Ways and Means
The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair and Members
Committee on Judiciary
State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 211
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Rhoads and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 410, Relating to the Traffic Code

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. 410, Relating to the Traffic Code.

The passage of this bill would increase the penalties for motorists who violate a pedestrian's right-of-way while in a crosswalk. It also aims to increase driver awareness and pedestrian safety.

The HPD urges you to support Senate Bill No. 410, Relating to the Traffic Code.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

en Ballard

APPROVED:

Susan Ballard

Chief of Police

Sincerely,

Calvin Tong, Major

Traffic Division

Serving and Protecting With Aloha

SB-410

Submitted on: 2/24/2020 3:51:25 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/26/2020 1:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chad Taniguchi	Testifying for Hawaii Bicycling League	Support	Yes

Comments:

Hawaii Bicycling League supports SB410 to raise the fine for drivers intering with those who walk in crosswalks.

Let's be fair. Most drivers are respectful and courteous of people who walk in crosswalks. However, it took on only 43 instances of poor judgment, selfish, rushed thinking, disracted driving to kill 43 people walking in 2018.

People walking are the most vulnerable users of our public places we use for transportation, and they have top priority for space and time.

Driving is a privilege we must exercise with utmost concern for other road users. They are first. Our time and convenience are second. That is the price we pay and the responsibility we have for being allowed to use a dangerous weapon, our vehicles, in public places.

This is not a new concept. Kamehameha I declared the law of the splintered paddle 223 years ago by saying everyone has the right to be safe on our roads. He said the stronger person (warriors with strenght/drivers with cars) have the duty to protect the weaker, vulnerable person (the old, young, weak, innocent people just trying to get to their destination).

Kamehameha I envisioned safet streets. Let's make our laws make them so.

Support Vision Zero! Increase fines for threatening people walking.

Submitted on: 2/24/2020 2:56:12 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/26/2020 1:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Rogers	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB410. Increasing penalties for vehicles who violate a pedestrian's right of way in crosswalks will hopefully raise awareness of the importance to pedestrian safety. This another step to a vision zero future.



<u>SB-410</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2020 10:47:11 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/26/2020 1:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rayne	Individual	Support	No

Comments: