



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEES ON TRANSPORTATION
AND
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Tuesday, February 14, 2023
10:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325 and Videoconference

Providing COMMENTS on
HB 189

RELATING TO MOPEDS.

Chairs Todd and Lowen, Vice Chairs Kila and Cochran, and Members of the Committees, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) offers comments on HB 189, which prohibits a retailer from selling or offering for sale combustion engine-powered mopeds beginning January 1, 2030.

HSEO supports the intent of the bill which is to speed up the decarbonization of ground transportation. Ground transportation accounts for about 20 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions in the state.¹ For Hawaii to meet its statutory target “to sequester more greenhouse gases than emitted as soon as practicable but no later than 2045”, programs that support the adoption of cleaner transportation options – including zero-emission micro-mobility alternatives such as mopeds - are necessary and tremendously important. The importance of zero-emission micro-mobility is underscored by the bills introduced in this legislative session to encourage and promote their use.

HSEO stands ready to work with the legislature, government agencies and other stakeholders to help achieve the objectives of HB 189. HSEO also recommends

¹ https://health.hawaii.gov/cab/files/2021/04/2017-Inventory_Final-Report_April-2021.pdf

consultation with the Attorney General's Office to ensure the requirements of the bill are not implicitly preempted by the Clean Air Act. HSEO stands ready to work with interested stakeholders to achieve the objectives of HB189.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB-189

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:22:19 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/14/2023 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Manabo Sato	Moped Doctors Inc.	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We of Moped Doctors STRONGLY oppose this bill which will put numerous moped shops and businesses which rely on combustion engine mopeds for their living . Electric mopeds cost two to three times as much have half the range and take six hours to charge vs a four stroke 50cc moped which cost under 1000 dollars, have a range of over 100 miles a gallon and can be filled in two minutes. Numerous food runners like Doordash , Uber Eats and other deliery services will be affected taking away a more affordable option With a quiet engine under 80 decibels and very economical, four stroke 50 cc mopeds contribute little if anything to the carbon footprint compared to all the hundreds of thousands of gas powered cars on the road.. We at Moped Doctors oppose it as it will be the DEATH of our business. Period. Thank you.

HB-189

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:40:13 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/14/2023 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nathan Bingham	Hawaiian Style Rentals, LLC	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Hello,

I own Hawaiian Style Rentals & Sales in Waikiki. We have three moped and bike rental shops in Waikiki, have been in business for 17 years and I oppose HB189. HB189 prohibits the sale of combustion engine mopeds beginning by 2030. Mopeds are a great alternative mode of transportation for local people in the state of Hawaii. They're affordable to purchase and maintain, registration fees are fair, they're easy to park and they get up to 100 miles per gallon. I don't understand why the state would want to rid local people of an economical, necessary and useful form of transportation with such a small carbon footprint. As a state we should be encouraging these alternative forms of transportation rather than outlawing them. I understand that Hawai'i's Clean Energy Initiative is set for 2045 and we're moving toward more electric modes of transportation, but prohibiting such a fuel efficient mode of transportation before prohibiting any other automobile seems irresponsible. Also, there are no viable options on the market or infrastructure in place for electric mopeds. Due to the size of the batteries and range it's impossible to comfortably navigate the city without needing to stop and charge the battery for hours at a time. These inefficiencies will ultimately lead to less sales and negatively affect our small local business.

I do hope you choose to not pass this bill. I appreciate the consideration.

Aloha!

Nathan Bingham

Hawaiian Style Rentals & Sales

HB-189

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:21:53 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/14/2023 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Sato	Mopeds and Parts for Sale	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

As a moped wholesaler in Hawaii for over ten years and who depends on combustion engine mopeds to survive we vehemently oppose this or any similar bill which will destroy our livelihood Gas mopeds are affordable, reliable, well adapted and used by many people and businesses. Rental companies rely heavily on them. . People rely on them to get to school, get to work and just live. Hawaii has many things that are very expensive, Gas powered mopeds are one of the FEW bright spots with a price less then half of a typical electric moped, a range of nearly 100 miles a gallon beating even hybrid cars. less carbon footprint per rider then any conventional combustion engine car. If one is to propose removing the sale of new gas mopeds. it should be done at the SAME time ALL combustion engine cars and other vehicle sales are banned. To single out one tiny niche that actually helps the people of Hawaii have even a little bit higher quality of life in somethin as essential as personal transportation is a disservice and unfair to them and to the environment. There are only 20000 registered new mopeds in Hawaii and hundreds of thousands of gas powered cars . To single out only the mopeds will do nothing but ruin the quality of life for those who depend on them with no measurable improvement in carbon gas output. . WE at Mopeds and Parts for sale for the businesses, both retail and wholesale that rely on gas powered mopeds for their livelihood, all of the riders and the people who save a lot of money on gas, parking and on the vehicle itself, we strongly say, please don't let this bill come to pass.



**TESTIMONY OF TINA YAMAKI, PRESIDENT
RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII
February 14, 2023
Re: HB 189 Relating to Mopeds**



Good morning, Chair Todd and Chair Lowen and members of the House Committee on Transportation and the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection. I am Tina Yamaki, President of the Retail Merchants of Hawaii and I appreciate this opportunity to testify.

The Retail Merchants of Hawaii was founded in 1901, RMH is a statewide, not for profit trade organization committed to the growth and development of the retail industry in Hawaii. Our membership includes small mom & pop stores, large box stores, resellers, luxury retail, department stores, shopping malls, local, national, and international retailers, chains and everyone in between.

While we understand the want for this type of measure, we are respectfully opposed to HB 189 Relating Mopeds. This measure prohibits a retailer from selling or offering for sale combustion engine-powered mopeds beginning January 1, 2030; and establishes fines for violations.

While there are electric mopeds on the market, the technology still needs to be worked on and is not yet comparable to combustion powered mopeds. The **E-mopeds are good for short distances as they are unable to hold long charges** with a charge typically lasting about 1 hour. This may be a **hinderance for those on the neighbor islands who use mopeds to get around as everything is more spread out** unlike in urban Honolulu where everything is relatively nearby to each other.

There are some e-mopeds on the market that are a few hundred dollars, but it is our understanding that they do not last long, constantly have repair issues and can be dangerous in some situations. The more reliable ones **cost double of that of a combustion powered mopeds**. And as we see many college students on a fixed income use mopeds to get around town and to and from work. Many would not be able to afford an E-moped.

In addition, **E-mopeds do have a weight limit** and are prone to damage if used by someone over weight and could cause a fatality.

Furthermore, the efficiency of a **personal e-scooter reduces after the first 2 years and typically have an average lifespan of 300-500 full charge cycles or approximately 3 years. In comparison the average lifespan of moped is between 7 and 10 years**. Of course, we acknowledge with care and maintenance the lifespan of both types of vehicles can be extended.

Retailers carry items that the customers want. **This measure would also impose hardship for those retailers who are unable to comply with the January 2030 deadline**. Not all stores are able to send their combustion powered mopeds outside of Hawaii to a sister store. This would mean that the goods would either have to be sold at loss or trashed. Or have a large inventory of E-mopeds that no one wants. And like cars, new models come out every year and older ones would be obsolete.

Now is not the time to ban combustion powered mopeds.

We ask that you hold this measure.

Mahalo again for this opportunity to testify.

LATE

HB-189

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 7:40:19 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/14/2023 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joe Shimkonis	Mopeds Direct	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Whom It May Concern,

I am dumbfounded by the reasoning for this bill other than a hatred for them, when in fact, they produce less pollution than any gas powered vehicle, they get better gas mileage than any gas powered vehicle, they take less space in traffic, they are easier to park, as well as save time and money. Tens of thousands of students as well as working class people use these every day not only to save money on fuel but also to save money in a parking garage. All the aforementioned are the direct opposite of what an automobile represents thus substantiating a ban of gas powered automobiles by 2030 and moving to an all electric vehicle society. This will not occur so quick as Hawaii lacks the infrastructure and planning to accomplish such a monumental task so quickly.

Nonetheless, I strongly oppose this prejudice bill which has no listed basis for it's consideration.

Thankyou for your time and review of this rebuttal.

Joe Shimkonis
Mopeds Direct
750 Kapahulu Avenue
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

HB-189

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 5:17:00 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/14/2023 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB189. However I believe that the effective date should be moved forward, as there are already plenty of electric motorcycles and ebikes on the market. 3 or 4 years should be plenty of transition time.

HB-189

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 7:05:58 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/14/2023 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Crossland	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this Bill.

HB-189

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 7:38:57 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/14/2023 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Will Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support HB189.

HB-189

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:03:12 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/14/2023 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Fukuzawa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Representatives,

I am opposed to this legislation. I believe there is a place for this type of product. To make it illegal makes no sense, even if we are trying to go green. Again, this is similar to the leaf blower bill. We should just do away with this bill.

Sincerely,

David Fukuzawa

HB-189

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:23:04 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/14/2023 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Pitman	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Arguments against the ban:

- **Cost:** A ban on combustion engine-powered mopeds could lead to increased costs for consumers who may have to purchase more expensive electric mopeds or find alternative modes of transportation.
- **Limited access to transportation:** A ban on combustion engine-powered mopeds could restrict access to affordable transportation for people in rural areas or those with limited financial resources.
- **Lack of alternatives:** In some areas, there may not be readily available alternatives to combustion engine-powered mopeds, such as convenient public transportation or electric moped charging infrastructure.

HB-189

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:03:37 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/14/2023 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike Rosenman	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Gas mopeds are the main transportation for thousands of people in all the islands, electric mopeds are still not affordable for us and electric mopeds ranges are considerably reduced compared with gas mopeds. Why ban gas mopeds and not ban gas cars ? A perfectly functioning car engine pollutes much more than a perfectly functioning 50 cc four stroke moped, so what is the rational for HB189 ?

Thanks

Mike R

LATE

HB-189

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 6:51:00 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/14/2023 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kyler alabab	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We want to keep mopeds alive!!

LATE

H.B.189 - Opposed

Oh my god! It's February and the new legislative session has just started. We can tell by all the so-called "new" legislation against mopeds. But unfortunately, it isn't anything new. What is the legislators' penchant for defiling mopeds in any way possible? And now H.B.189, prohibiting the sale of new combustion engine-powered mopeds! Seriously? And, you are singling out mopeds. May I ask why? Isn't similar legislation proposed for automobiles, but not scheduled to go into effect in 2045? What is the purpose of H.B.189? Is it possibly to stem the problem of pollution? If so, then it seems we're moving in the wrong direction. Or maybe its purpose is to lessen our dependency on oil? Again, wrong direction. Shouldn't things be reversed and prohibit the sale of cars by 2030 and mopeds by 2045? Is that too much to ask that all cars be replaced by mopeds? If that were to happen, we would really see a drastic change in our traffic woes in Honolulu. Can you imagine how much less congested the streets would be, less traffic, more parking availability, more cautious drivers and less pollution (resulting in better air quality). The benefits would be endless if you could just change people's frames of mind. But the change has to start with you, the legislators. Stop the annual psychotic penchant for the extinction of mopeds and start thinking outside of the box. Thank you!

LATE

HB-189

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 7:39:47 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/14/2023 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pierson Reynolds	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Cheap, 1,000 dollar mopeds are essential to my life at this point. I do Uber eats as a full income job that pays for my rent and school. Every time my moped reaches 3,000 miles, I sell it and buy a brand new moped in an attempt to negate the normal issues that comes with a older, used moped. It's key for me to have reliability in my vehicle because I'm constantly working everyday. Taking days off for repairs is not an option. I can only do this method with mopeds that are cheap and easy to achieve, so taking away moped sales would kill my business. Doing this would ruin my job.

LATE

HB-189

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 12:31:12 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/14/2023 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Clair Mason	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha chair, vice chair, and members of the committee,

My name is Clair Mason, I am from Kailua-Kona, and I stand in **strong support of HB189**. We are failing to catch up to our climate deadlines. We must all do our part to battle climate change so that the aftermath doesn't fall in the shoulders of our keiki. Please pass HB189 to end the sale of non-renewable mopeds in Hawai'i. Mahalo for your work and for considering my testimony.

Clair Mason

HB-189

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 5:42:02 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/14/2023 10:30:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gregory Hartney	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

If you ban the sale of combustion engine mopeds, what will residents resort to? In the market, there are no reasonably priced, long range options for people. Electric mopeds are high priced and have a limited range.

where are residents supposed to charge them? If you live in a condo or apartment, you can't bring it up to your room. If you need to commute to/from work or school and exceed the range, how do you get home?? Until there are equally priced options that can handle the same distance on a charge, more charging options, and have the same storage capacity for personal belongings and groceries, I will oppose this bill over and over.