



**TESTIMONY BY:**  
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**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 7, 2023  
10:30 A.M.  
State Capitol, Teleconference

**H.B. 851**  
**RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY INSPECTIONS**

House Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **opposes** H.B. 851, which amends the annual safety inspection for vehicles from every twelve months to every twenty-four months and amends inspections for new vehicles from within two years of the date on which the vehicle was first sold to three years.

Our Periodic Motor Vehicle Inspection Data for the number of vehicles that failed show that even newer vehicles, two years old, had a failure rate averaging 15 percent (see table below for additional years). This demonstrates the need to have safety checks annually, to prevent equipment failure that may result in a crash, or stalled vehicles that may cause delays for roadway users. Every minute that a lane remains blocked during peak travel time results in 4 minutes of delay, during and even well after the lane is cleared.

Test Year	Model Year	Vehicle Age	Total Tests	Total Failed	Fail Percentage
2023	2021	2	4,315	681	15.78
2023	2020	3	7,722	986	12.77
2023	2019	4	6,435	1,092	16.97
2022	2020	2	70,867	9,896	13.96
2022	2019	3	85,682	13,191	15.4
2022	2018	4	74,865	12,352	16.5
2021	2019	2	85,546	13,689	16
2021	2018	3	80,102	15,941	19.9
2021	2017	4	75,719	13,961	18.44
2020	2018	2	71,657	10,272	14.33
2020	2017	3	72,365	11,459	15.84
2020	2016	4	72,687	10,277	14.14
2019	2017	2	88,497	13,881	15.69
2019	2016	3	88,121	15,636	17.74
2019	2015	4	76,234	11,983	15.72

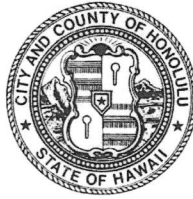
Additionally, by lengthening the duration between odometer readings and lengthening the time period when the first odometer reading is taken would create difficulties in implementing a per-mile Road Usage Charge (RUC) program in Hawaii. In separate measures, the DOT is recommending that the existing \$50 electric vehicle annual registration fee be eliminated and in its place, EV owners can be in per-mile state mileage-based RUC system, or they can choose to pay an annual flat fee.

Various House and Senate bills such as H.B. 1110 and S.B. 1408 establishes a RUC beginning with electric vehicles, and mileage traveled would be collected by odometer readings taking under existing annual safety inspection process. Therefore, we recommend that the inspection periods remain unchanged from the current time periods and durations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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KEITH K. HORIKAWA  
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DEPUTY CHIEFS

RICK BLANGIARDI  
MAYOR

OUR REFERENCE ST-TK

February 7, 2023

The Honorable Chris Todd, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Transportation  
House of Representatives  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 312  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Todd and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 851, Relating to Motor Vehicle Safety Inspections

I am Stason Tanaka, Acting Major of the Traffic Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD opposes House Bill No. 851, Relating to Motor Vehicle Safety Inspections.

The HPD opposes this bill which lengthens the time period in which certain vehicles must have a safety inspection.

Permitting vehicles to be safety inspected once every 24 months may lead to an increase in motorists operating their vehicles without updated insurance. The law may also encourage motorists to make modifications to their vehicles that do not necessarily meet the Department of Transportation's safety standards; therefore, resulting in an increase of unlawful vehicles on roadways for a longer period of time.

The HPD urges you to oppose House Bill No. 851, Relating to Motor Vehicle Safety Inspections. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
for Arthur J. Logan  
Chief of Police

  
Stason Tanaka, Acting Major  
Traffic Division