Bill 87 (2020) Testimony

MISC. COM. 276 BUD From: Sent: Subject: CLK Council Info Tuesday, April 20, 2021 8:08 PM Budget Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Charmaine Birchard
Phone	808.436.9359
Email	birchardc@gmail.com
Meeting Date	04-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Budget
Agenda Item	Bill 87 CD1-CD2
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
	Charmaine Birchard 21 S. Kuakini St. Honolulu, HI 96813
	April 20, 2021
	To: Budget Committee,
Written Testimony	This is a simple solution and there are wiggle room to think things through. We are in a pandemic at this time, not only in the US as you already know the whole world is in it. After a year, we are slowly getting vaccinated however it is not a cure. There are all different variants to take into consideration. People are just getting back on their feet. Some can't even get food on the table less alone get their kids back into school at full capacity. Just figure out how you will get the rail up and the consumers back on their feet. Until then I oppose this bill.
Testimony Attachment Accept Terms and Agreement	Thank you, Charmaine Birchard 1

TESTIMONY DATE: APRIL 21, 2021 FOR: BILL 87 BUDGET COMMITTEE CITYOLER FROM: BARBRA ARMENTROUT PH 808-450-8838 2350 PALOLO AVE. #B HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816 TO: BUDGET CHAIR & COMMITTEE MEMBER BILL ST SHOULD BE DEFERRED UNTIL EXTREMELY LOW INCOME IS CONSIDERED FOR PARATRANSIT RIDERS UNDER THE POVERTY LEVEL, EVEN A RAISE OF 235 AFFECTS THEIR ABILITY TO LIVE. BCAB (DISABILITY & COMMUNICA-TIONS ACCESS BOARD CONCURS REGARDING ELI FOR PARATRAN. SIT. PLEASE DEFER THIS bill UNTIL YOU, SEE COPIES OF RATE COmmission MEETING BARBRA ARMENTROUT MINUTES -

<u>extremely low incomes.</u> I brought it up at our Rate Commission meeting that there is an omission because this should include Paratransit Riders with extremely low incomes also. And it should not be limited to only 2000 riders since there are more extremely low income riders than that.

The Rate Commission had so many disabled Paratransit riders who had extremely low incomes according to the Poverty level of the united States and that even an increase of \$.25 for each way on the ParaTransit is a hardship to riders who live on SSI. They should not be excluded and they have testified for months at Rate Commission meetings. The inability to afford a ParaTransit Ride limits them to not being able to afford a ride to the grocey store, church, pharmacy etc. THEY SHOULD BE ALLOWED SOME DISCOUNT ON THEIR PARATRANSIT RIDES WHEN A LOT OF AGENCIES SHOULD BE PAYING MORE FOR THEIR CLIENTS TO USE THE PARATRANSIT SYSTEM.

I WILL BE TESTIFYING AT THE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING BEFORE THIS BILL IS HEARD THE THIRD TIME.

IT HAS BEEN VERY HARD TO TESTIFY WITH COVID-19 AND A LOT OF EXTREMELY LOW INCOME RIDERS DO NOT FEEL THEY ARE HEARD WHEN THEY ARE THE ONES WHO HAVE BEEN TESTIFYING FOR OVER A YEAR AT RATE COMMISSION MEETINGS. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

nmissioner