

Bill 87 (2020), CD1 Testimony

MISC. COM. 302



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

1010 Richards Street, Room 118 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V) • Fax (808) 586-8129 • TTY (808) 586-8162

May 5, 2021

The Honorable Tommy Waters, Chair
and Members
Honolulu City Council
City and County of Honolulu
530 South King Street
Room 203
Honolulu, HI 96813

Regarding: Bill 87 (2020) CD1 FD1 – Relating to Public Transit

Dear Chair Waters and Councilmembers:

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) supports Bill 87 (2020) CD1 FD1. Bill 87 (2020) CD1 FD1 would raise the paratransit single ride fare by 25 cents from \$2.00 to \$2.25 effective July 1, 2022. The paratransit fare has not been raised since 2001.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) allows the paratransit fare to be up to twice the undiscounted, full fare charged for an adult single ride fare on the fixed route system. Bill 87 (2020) CD1 FD1 would result in a paratransit fare that is still significantly lower than what is allowable under the ADA.

DCAB supports the proposed creation of a fare program for paratransit riders with extremely low incomes. This program would protect vulnerable riders from the impact of this and future fare raises. DCAB looks forward to an assessment of the extremely low income program after its first year so that the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) and the City Council are able to evaluate the program's impact on rider demand and on time performance, and if the \$1.5 million subsidy was adequate.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Bill 87 (2020) CD1 FD1.

Respectfully submitted,

KIRBY L. SHAW
Executive Director

Date: May 5,, 2021

Time: 10 am.

Joy Nakata-Muranaka

650 Sheridan Street, #20

Honolulu, HI 96814

To: Council Chair: tommy Waters

Cc: Full council.

Subject: Bill 87 (2020), CDI, FDI(1)

Dear Council Waters and other members:

I am Joy nakata-Muranaka, A blind individual. I do not agree with the increase at this time. There are areas in which the transportation Department needs to research to increase funds before seeking it from consumers. Funds are available, but Research needs to be done to know where additional sources of funds can be obtained. The expenses in Hawaii is so increased, that it's very difficult for individuals no longer employed to have an easy time with the increase. Grants are available, other sources are available. Research should be done!

I do not approve or agree with this bill at this time. I hope more consideration is done towards gaining funding from other sources before asking consumers to pay additionally.

Sincerely,

Joy Nakata-Muranaka

Testimony Bill 87 CD1 FDI

MAY 5, 2021 FROM BARBRA ARMENTROUT
RATE COMMISSIONER

PH 808-450-8838

TO: Honolulu City Council
3 CHAIR WATERS

I do support Bill 87 & I do agree with the FDI to have extremely low income for disabled riders who are under the poverty level but I do not agree & support the ELI fare to be \$1.65. Currently ELI pay 2.00 per one way ride at this time. I should not be the same as ELI for bus transit is as paratransit is a specialized fare door to door. If it is \$2.00 now & is raised to \$2.25 now I should stay at \$2.00 for ELI disabled riders, and any HV riders abusing riding the HV should be addressed. I also think that the director of DTS Roger Morton be given the time till the end of

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2021 to address the ELI for the
PARATRANSIT & Also to show council the
presentation of having agencies pay
more for HV rides based on more
federal money being disbursed to
the agencies. This would involve the
state legislature weighing in on
going hand in hand with the city
on PARATRANSIT MEDICAID PAYMENTS.

As a result there might even be
no fare for ELI PARATRANSIT OR
DTS CAN COME UP WITH A POSSIBLE
ELI SOLUTION ESPECIALLY FOR ELI
RIDERS ON SSI/SSDI WHICH I BELIEVE
IS ABOUT 2000 RIDERS.

I do NOT AGREE ON \$1.25 FOR HV
ELI RIDERS. THAT IS WHY I HAVE
BEEN TRYING TO DEFER BILL 87 UN-
TIL IT CAN BE WORKED OUT. ALL THE
HV ELI RIDERS HAVE TROUBLE W/COVID 19
TO TESTIFY WITH COUNCIL BUT APPROX
80 HAD ALREADY TESTIFIED AT THE
RATE COMMISSION MAHALO,
BARBARA ARMENTROUT