

BILL032(23)
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 306

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting Date: Jun 7, 2023 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 0

Oppose: 1

I wish to comment: 0

Name: Natalie Iwasa	Email: iwasajunk@mail.com	Zip: 96825
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jun 6, 2023 @ 08:33 AM

TO: Members of the Honolulu City Council

FROM: Natalie Iwasa

DATE: Wednesday, June 7, 2023

SUBJECT: Bill 32, CD2, Relating to Public Transit – **OPPOSED**

Aloha Chair Waters and Councilmembers,

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on Bill 32, CD2, which revises and updates the city ordinance regarding public transit.

Several times I have asked for two simple amendments to this bill – one regarding the violation of dropping litter and the other regarding use of adjacent seats when the bus is not full. Neither amendment has been made. Instead, we heard during committee how difficult it would be to prove intent if someone dropped a piece litter.

The question you should be asking yourselves is:

Which is better public policy: 1) that a potential guilty person not be punished; or 2) that someone who *accidentally* dropped a piece of paper be fined and face other consequences?

As it is, the bus driver is allowed discretion to assist in the enforcement of these provisions. If the driver is having a bad day or simply doesn't like a certain rider, then an accidental act could result in punishment. This is not good policy.

Regarding usage of adjacent seats, it is simply common sense that if the bus is not full, people be allowed to use the seats next to them. Instead, this bill makes that a violation as well.

I oppose this bill for these reasons. If you are not going to amend it, please vote "no."