

BILL073(25)

Testimony

MISC. COMM. 603

*INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORTATION & TECHNOLOGY (ITT)

***INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORTATION &
TECHNOLOGY (ITT) Meeting**

Meeting Date: Nov 19, 2025 @ 09:00 AM

Support: 3

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name: Micah Munekata	Email: mmunekata@ulupono.com	Zip: 96813
Representing: Ulupono Initiative	Position: Support	Submitted: Nov 17, 2025 @ 03:19 PM
Name: Tiffany Yajima	Email: tyajima@awlaw.com	Zip: 96813
Representing: Alliance for Automotive Innovation	Position: Support	Submitted: Nov 18, 2025 @ 08:24 AM
Name: Eduardo Hernandez	Email: eduardo@hbl.org	Zip: 96816
Representing: Hawai'i Bicycling League	Position: Support	Submitted: Nov 18, 2025 @ 03:52 PM



Email: communications@ulupono.com

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORTATION, AND TECHNOLOGY
Wednesday, November 19, 2025 — 9:00 A.M.

Ulupono Initiative supports Bill 73, Relating to Transportation.

Dear Chair Cordero and Members of the Committee:

My name is Micah Munekata, and I am the Director of Government Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food, renewable energy and clean transportation choices, and better management of freshwater resources.

Ulupono supports Bill 73, which amends certain provisions relating to traffic and vehicles.

Ulupono supports creating safer, more accessible streets for all road users. Updating the traffic code to align with modern standards like the current Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and the Honolulu Complete Streets Design Manual ensures our infrastructure reflects good practice in promoting safety for people walking and biking. By modernizing bicycle infrastructure requirements and clarifying rules for where bicycles can operate, this bill creates safer conditions all around. The updates to crosswalk signals and other traffic control devices will enhance safety at key locations throughout the city. This bill comprehensively helps to prioritize the safety of our most vulnerable—from keiki to kpuna.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

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Director of Government Affairs



SanHi

GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

DATE: November 17, 2025

TO: Honolulu City Council
Councilmember Radiant Cordero, Chair
Councilmember Val A. Okimoto, Vice Chair

FROM: Tiffany Yajima

RE: **Bill 73 (25) – Relating to Transportation**
Hearing Date: Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at 9:00 AM

Dear Chair Cordero, Vice Chair Okimoto, and Members on the Committee on Infrastructure, Transportation and Technology:

On behalf of the Alliance for Automotive Innovation (“Auto Innovators”) we submit this testimony in support of Bill 73, Relating to Transportation.

The Alliance for Automotive Innovation is the singular, authoritative and respected voice of the automotive industry. Focused on creating a safe and transformative path for sustainable industry growth, the Alliance for Automotive Innovation represents the manufacturers producing nearly 99 percent of cars and light trucks sold in the U.S. Members include motor vehicle manufacturers, original equipment suppliers, technology, and other automotive-related companies and trade associations.

Auto Innovators supports section 14 of this bill, exempting OEM-installed vehicle operating systems from the prohibition against TV screens in vehicles.

Unlike aftermarket devices or TV receivers, OEM systems do not stream television broadcasts or entertainment video while the vehicle is in motion. These vehicle displays provide safety features such as vehicle information, GPS and mapping systems, and supplemental visual displays (e.g., back-up cameras) that are positioned and programmed to minimize distraction with certain functions disabled while the vehicle is in motion.

OEM installed vehicle operating systems are designed to meet federal safety regulations under the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS), which govern electronic displays and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) guidelines on driver distraction and human-machine interface design. These systems are integrated during vehicle design and undergo rigorous testing for usability, safety, and reliability.

This amendment would make clear that OEM-installed vehicle operating systems are exempt under ROH 15-19.39 and for these reasons Auto Innovators supports this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

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Honolulu City Council
Committee On Infrastructure, Transportation & Technology
Wednesday, November 19, 2025 – 9:00am

Hawai'i Bicycling League Supports Bill 73 (2025), Relating To Transportation

Aloha Chair Cordero and Members of the Committee,

My name is Eduardo Hernandez and I am the Advocacy Director for the Hawai'i Bicycling League (HBL). We are a non-profit organization founded in 1975 with the mission of enabling more people to ride bicycles for health, recreation, and transportation. We strive to create communities across our islands that have safe, accessible, and inclusive environments for people to bike, walk, roll, and use public transit.

Hawai'i Bicycling League supports Bill 73 (2025), which amends certain provisions relating to traffic and vehicles. We also have some recommendations to improve the bill for clarity and in recognition that in the absence of a complete and protected network of bikeways, people, especially keiki and kūpuna, will feel more comfortable riding on the sidewalk and can do so responsibly.

Recommended Changes:

- Section 6 (g) on page 7: **Change “must” to “may.”** We need a more robust and protected network of bike lanes rather than overcriminalizing the use of sidewalks. Last year, a cyclist was killed when a rideshare driver allowed a passenger to disembark in the bike lane on Kālakaua Ave. We are not aware of a fatality caused by a bicycle on Waikīkī sidewalks.
- Section 15 (H)(i) and (J) on page 20: **Standardize the language to be equivalent to the speed limit of sidewalks at 10mph.** As written, the speed limits described in these sections are conflicting, noting “10mph” and then “must not exceed 5 miles per hour.”

Updating the traffic code to align with modern standards like the current Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and the Honolulu Complete Streets Design Manual ensures our infrastructure reflects good practice in promoting safety for people walking, biking, and rolling. By modernizing bicycle infrastructure requirements and clarifying rules for where bicycles can operate, this bill creates safer conditions for all road users in Honolulu. Striving to make the island more pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly has been part of Honolulu's Charter (codified as Section 6-1706) since 2006, and this bill helps to get us closer to that goal.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Eduardo Hernandez
Advocacy Director