BILL053(26)
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 450

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting Date: Nov 5, 2026 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 2

Oppose: 2

I wish to comment: 0

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Linda Howe	lindamhowe@gmail.com	96744
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Oct 29, 2026 @ 11:13 PM

Testimony:

This situation is SO clear: shopping carts are being stolen for personal use. That's a crime.

Justifying and normalizing this criminal behavior based upon the neediness of the perpetrator is a slippery slope. Would you condone the theft of YOUR skateboard, bicycle, moped, or vehicle, by someone who 'needs' transportation?

Shopping carts are not 'public resources' and their thefts raise the cost of goods for all of us.

Name:	Email:	Zip:
BIANCA ISAKI	bianca.isaki@gmail.com	96817-2456
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Oppose	Oct 30, 2026 @ 07:03 AM

Testimony:

Aloha Councilmembers,

I'm disappointed that Bill 53 has progressed. "The law, in its majestic equality, forbids the rich as well as the poor to sleep under bridges, to beg in the streets, and to steal bread." Anatole France, quoted in Griffin v. Illinois, 351 U.S. 12, 23, 76 S.Ct. 585, 593, 100 L.Ed. 891 (1956) (Frankfurter, J., concurring).

Criminalizing shopping cart use will only punish those who already have no good options and furthers a farce that strains judicial resources.

Yours,

Bianca Isaki

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Ryan Mandado	ryanmandado@gmail.com	96817
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Oppose	Oct 30, 2026 @ 01:09 PM

Testimony:

Aloha City Council Members,

My name is Dr. Ryan Mandado and I'm writing in strong opposition to Bill 53.

When I was Chairman of the Kalihi-Palama Neighborhood Board from 2015-2019, one memory continues to live with me

today. During a meeting, a homeless woman came to the meeting to request for help because city officials took her things from a sweep and she couldn't afford to get her things back. She shared that the only thing she wanted back was baby formula for her child. Her testimony was so powerful, government officials sat in frustration and called whoever they knew to make sure this woman got her things back without paying. This is an example of how city policies to address homelessness often puts them further in risk - for both adults and youth.

I share this story because it showcases the hurt and harm we place on people for criminalizing homelessness. Homelessness is not a crime - especially when living in a city with a high cost of living. Issuing misdemeanors for having a cart will not mitigate the challenges we have to ensure homeless people get the supports they need to live a thriving and healthy life.

Once again, please oppose this harmful bill. There are better solutions.

With gratitude,
Dr. Ryan Mandado

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Jeanne Rice	jdatzrice@yahoo.com	96814
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Oct 30, 2026 @ 02:48 PM

JEANNE DATZ RICE
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October 30, 2026

TESTIMONY TO HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL – RE: BILL 053 26 Relating to Shopping Carts

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Honorable City Councilmembers:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding Bill 053 26 – relating to the illegal use of shopping carts in Honolulu.

You see shopping carts all over that homeless/houseless people for the most part steal to transport their personal items. Oftentimes, these carts block sidewalks, are left un-attended, left in our city parks and all over the place.

These carts are stolen in the first place, and those that steal them – homeless/houseless,
while it makes sense to fine these individuals – they really do not have funds to pay for their fines.

So, while I do support a fine – *make the fine something that makes sense* – like: having to spend five (5) hours a day – for a period of time – cleaning up our parks – while being monitored. Our City & County parks are so short of staff, having these individuals work to 'pay their theft debt' by being monitored and cleaning up trash from our parks – would help all parks, plus keep them from stealing carts, and perhaps from trashing our parks as well.

Habitual abusers of shopping cart theft can have their time cleaning up parks lengthen if they continue to steal (other recorded thefts). If they do so more than X times in any given period….perhaps a difference consequence can be made – like jail time.

There has to be consequences for theft – but let's make the consequence mean something and send a 'message' to those that steal shopping carts, that they cannot have access to any park with a cart and they now have to spend a good amount of hours per day cleaning the parks they make bad for all park users.

Businesses are losing money when carts are stolen, and then prices have to go up due to the additional expense of a business to replace any cart.

By having those who commit the theft ‘pay back’ the City while cleaning up the parks makes good sense and it could possibly help with their rehabilitation as well by doing something worthy for all and not just lay around all day and night with a stolen shopping cart.

Thank you for your time and consideration.