

LATE TESTIMONY

House Committee on FIN

Wednesday, February 18, 2009 at 9:00 AM CR – 309

In Support of HB 1190 – Relating to Traffic Accidents Investigations

Aloha Chair Souki and Vice Chair Awana and members of TRN committee.

I am Ilalo Parayno and retired educator.

I strongly support HB 1190 that would expedite traffic accident investigations. This bill allows Police Department of each county, under their full authority, to coordinate investigation of traffic accidents, especially fatal accidents, in more efficient and effective way

By coordinating investigation of accidents with all other involved authorities and parties including instant onsite medical examiners presence, time of road blocks can be significantly shortened.

This will reduce loss of working hours for working people, reduce loss of productivity for businesses and reduce loss of educational opportunities for our children.

With already existing traffic congestion and limited major roadways and highways, the passage of HB 1190 is "very" urgent and crucial to our community and our economy.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify.



LATE TESTIMONY

Honorable Joe Sōuki and members of the Committee

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES LTC Soo Ling Lo USAR Testimony in favor of HB 1190

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

I am LTC Soo Ling Lo, of the US Army Reserves. I am here to testify in favor of HB 1190. Over a year ago there was a pedestrian traffic fatality on Fort Weaver Road. The body was determined dead at 0600 but the body was not picked up till ~~5~~^{11:00 hr} hours later. Mean time, the highway ^{road} was closed and Traffic was at stand still for five hours. This is the reason that we need to amend our laws.

What happen is once the paramedic had made a determination that the body is dead, they are no longer responsible and will not have nothing to do with the body. It is now under the jurisdiction of the medical examiner. The current law now, the police ^{may} only call for the medical examiner ^{after} once their investigation had been completed. The police investigation ^{could} can take hours. Mean time the motorist are impacted ^{buried in} and the body lies on the pavement. ^{covered w/ a white line sheet} Out of respect and dignity to the fatality, this time period should be shortened.

^{once} This bill simply ask that the medical examiner should be called to the scene ^{one} a fatality occurrence had been determined. Depending on the time of the day or day of the week, the response time of the medical examiner could also be hours. By notifying the medical examiner right away and allowing the medical examiner to conduct his/her investigation with the police whenever possible will definitely expedite freeway or highway clearance faster.

Our roadway system is very limited, every little thing help.

I respectfully ask for the passage of this bill. Thank you for allowing me to testify.