

PEA Committee

From: Ramsey Ross <rross@kauai.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2017 11:18 AM
To: PEA Committee
Cc: Justin Kollar
Subject: Testimony in support of PEA-41 (2017) Prohibiting Smoking in Vehicles When Persons Under the Age of Eighteen are Present
Attachments: Kauai OPA Testimony on Maui Keiki Car Smoking Ban.pdf

Aloha,

Please find attached the Kauai Office of the Prosecuting Attorney's testimony in support of PEA-41 (2017) Prohibiting Smoking in Vehicles When Persons Under the Age of Eighteen are Present, set for hearing on September 18, 2017 at 9:00 am.

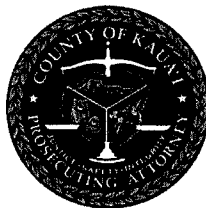
Thank you for the opportunity to present our support.

Sincerely,

H. Ramsey Ross
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Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor
County of Kaua'i
Office of the Prosecuting Attorney
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Justin F. Kollar
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Council of the County of Maui, Hawaii
Policy, Economic Development, and Agriculture Committee,

RE: PEA-41 (2017) PROHIBITING SMOKING IN VEHICLES WHEN PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN ARE PRESENT

Date of Hearing: September 18, 2017; Time: 9:00 am

Place: Kalana O Maui Building, 8th Floor; 200 South High Street, Wailuku, Hawaii

Testimony of the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Kauai

TO THE HONORABLE YUKI LEI K. SUGIMURA, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

The County of Kauai Office of the Prosecuting Attorney strongly supports the Proposed Bill, entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE . . . TO PROHIBIT SMOKING IN VEHICLES WHEN PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN ARE PRESENT," as described in County Communication No. 17-319. This office strongly supported a similar successful bill last year in the Kaua'i County Council and we ask you to join the County of Kaua'i in protecting the keiki of Hawaii from secondhand smoke.

Smoking in a confined area where a child is present subjects the child to secondhand smoke and its potential – and probable – health hazards. Science has shown that secondhand smoke in a car can be up to ten times more toxic than what the EPA considers unhealthy air quality, even when a window is down. Secondhand smoke is especially harmful to keiki because keiki generally breathe at a faster rate than adults and their lungs are still developing. Passing smoke-free cars into law will help decrease our children's exposure to secondhand smoke and educate parents and other adults about the dangers of smoking in a car when a minor is present.

This office respectfully asks that you recommend passage of the Bill proposed in County Communication No. 17-319 to help make Maui the third county in Hawai'i (joining the Big Island and Kaua'i) to eliminate smoking in cars when a minor is present. Thank you for the opportunity to present this supporting testimony.