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March 11, 2015

TO: CITY COUNCIL  
City and County of Honolulu  
Ernest Y. Martin, Chair  
Ikaika Anderson, Vice Chair

FROM: Walter Rosenkranz, Business Development Manager  
CAR2GO

RE: Bill 10, CD1 (2015) Relating to Car Sharing  
Position: Strong Support

Dear Chair Martin, Vice Chair Anderson, and Councilmembers:

My name is Walter Rosenkranz and I am the Business Development Manager for car2go, a wholly owned subsidiary of Daimler. We strongly support Bill 10 which establishes a pilot program to provide a regulatory framework for car-sharing organizations, including compensation to the City for the use of off street city parking and metered on street parking.

The Daimler Business Innovation Unit designed car2go to cost-effectively meet the transportation needs of residents of urban areas. Our point-to-point mobility solution offers a network of smart vehicles for rent by the minute. We provide "on demand" transportation with a free-floating car-sharing service which complements existing public transportation alternatives. This is especially valuable in cities like Honolulu with robust public transportation systems. We currently operate in 29 cities worldwide with more than one million members and more than 13,500 vehicles in service. The car2go system was designed to address significant issues facing cities today including alleviating congestion, reducing emissions and maintaining and improving quality of life.

This bill would provide a regulatory framework to allow car2go to pay for vehicle parking directly to the city. It is a derivative of Bill 65 which was previously supported by this committee. This new bill limits the program to a three year pilot and requires reporting by the Department of Transportation on efforts to engage the community. The bill also requires the car-sharing companies to provide an accounting of time spent at city parking meters and to reimburse the city for any time spent at meters above the 20% threshold. We are supportive of these efforts to address the recent concerns raised by some members of the public.

Please note that our members are prohibited from ending vehicle rentals at any metered spaces which are subject to parking prohibitions at certain hours, like the parking in front of Honolulu Hale which is subject to towing at 3:30. This prohibition preserves those parking meters for use by other residents.

Passage of bill 10 will allow car2go to move forward in providing another transportation option for the people of Honolulu. We ask for your support for bill 10 to pass second reading as amended in the Budget Committee.