

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Voting Members

Joey Manahan, Chair; Ann H. Kobayashi, Vice-Chair,
Brandon J.C. Elefante, Ron Menor, Kymberly Marcos Pine

Committee Meeting Held
March 31, 2016

Honorable Ernest Y. Martin
Chair, City Council
City and County of Honolulu

Mr. Chair:

Your Committee on Transportation, to which was referred
Bill 23 (2016):

“RELATING TO SPECIAL TRANSIT SERVICE,”

passed first reading on March 16, 2016 and reports as follows:

The purpose of Bill 23 (2016) is to clarify the provision of supplemental special transit services for persons requiring special transit services for medical reasons.

The Director of the Department of Transportation Services (DTS), Michael Formby, testified in support of the intent of Bill 23, but noted certain concerns with the way the bill is currently drafted. Director Formby stated that Bill 23 is an opportunity to address many issues associated with Handi-Van service, ensure that the City improves services, while working through door-to-door service versus door-through-door service and other issues. Therefore, Director Formby proposed that DTS work with the Committee on Transportation and Oahu Transit Services (OTS) to further discuss this measure and make necessary changes in accordance with City ordinance, Federal law, and other guidelines..

OTS President Roger Morton and Paratransit Vice President Charlotte Townsend testified in support of the intent of the Bill and noted that supplemental providers, such as taxis, are already being used to provide about 700 trips per day because the HandiVan is already operating at full capacity. President Morton also stated that while 30 percent of

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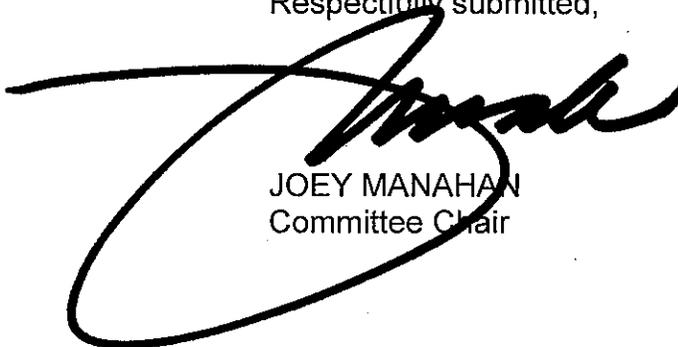
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users are in wheelchairs, there currently is a lack of wheelchair-accessible transport vehicles. He concluded that OTS is willing to work with the Council and DTS to improve and increase the services provided to needy residents.

Two members of the public provided oral testimony in support to the Bill, one person provided testimony in opposition to Bill 23, and four people provided comments. One written testimony was received with comments.

Your Committee on Transportation is in accord with the intent and purpose of Bill 23 (2016), and recommends that it pass second reading and be scheduled for a public hearing. (Ayes: Elefante, Kobayashi, Pine, Manahan – 4; Noes: None; Excused: Menor - 1.)

Respectfully submitted,



JOEY MANAHAN
Committee Chair

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