



Mothers Against Drunk Driving HAWAII
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March 16, 2009

To: Honolulu City Council

From: Arkie Koehl — Chair, Public Policy, Mothers Against Drunk Driving -
Hawaii

Re: Bill 4 CD 1 – Mobile Electronic Devices

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HONOLULU, HAWAII

I am Arkie Koehl, submitting written testimony in support of Bill 4 CD 1 on behalf of the membership of MADD-Hawaii.

Research cited by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, among others, suggests a link between cellphone use and driving mishaps. Many states have already adopted measures limiting the use of cellphones in one form or another.

MADD Hawaii is especially interested in banning the use of cell phones and other electronic devices from novice drivers who are driving on a learner's permit or a provisional license. Research has shown that when young people are beginning to drive, distractions put the novice drivers and their passengers at an increased crash risk.

We believe Bill 4 is a sound step forward in highway safety for Oahu, and urge the Council to pass the measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

MISC. COM. 695

PH