

Bill 4, CD1

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From: Curtis Nishihara [mailto:nishihc@hawaii.rr.com]

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Subject: Transportation and Planning Committee Testimony-Proposed Bill 4, CD2 (09)

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My name is Curtis Nishihara and I live in Salt Lake (Councilman Romy Cachola). I am submitting this written testimony in support of proposed Bill 4, CD2, *with* the exclusionary wording proposed by Councilman Okinos' committee that would *exempt amateur radio operation* from the scope of the proposed ban on using handheld cellular phones and portable gaming devices while operating a motor vehicle.

Amateur radio operators are licensed by the FCC. A large number of these operators voluntarily participate in various emergency organizations. All amateur radio operators can and do participate during an emergency situation. Part of the usefulness of having a wide ranging, properly trained group of individuals in a crisis situation is their ability to monitor and report developing situations before, during, and after the emergency. The ability to perform such community service would be severely limited if they were not able to do so while being mobile.

I understand and appreciate the Council's concern about the traffic safety issue surrounding the use of cellphones and other devices. I think it is equally important that we allow those individuals who are part of the Amateur Radio Service be exempted.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Respectfully Submitted by
Curtis Nishihara

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