



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

1010 Richards Street, Room 118 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V) • Fax (808) 586-8129 • TTY (808) 586-8162

January 28, 2021

Docket Management Facility
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE
West Building Ground Floor
Room W12-140
Washington, D.C. 20590-0001

Regarding: Docket NHTSA-2016-0031 Request for Comment; Make
Inoperative Exemptions; Vehicle Modifications to Accommodate
People with Disabilities

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) submits these comments on the proposed amendment to the existing regulation “Make Inoperative Exemptions; Vehicle Modifications to Accommodate People with Disabilities” as requested in docket NHTSA-2016-0031.

The proposed amendment would add an exemption for vehicle and equipment manufacturers to make inoperable rear-view cameras for purposes of installing personal mobility device (PMD) equipment on vehicles. Rear-view cameras are required on light vehicles built after March 1, 2018 in order to reduce the occurrence of back-over crashes.

DCAB supports the amendment because PMD equipment is vital to the mobility and independence of many individuals with disabilities. However, we encourage the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to collaborate with vehicle and equipment manufacturers to develop cost efficient technical solutions that would reduce back over crashes when PMD equipment is installed.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this important matter.

Sincerely,

KIRBY L. SHAW
Executive Director