

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2293

Honolulu, Hawaii

FOB 17

, 2006

RE: S.B. No. 2215
S.D. 1

Honorable Robert Bunda
President of the Senate
Twenty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2006
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Transportation and Government Operations,
to which was referred S.B. No. 2215 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO USE OF INTOXICANTS WHILE
OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to create a category of
"highly intoxicated driver" for a person with a 0.15 blood alcohol
reading for the purpose of enhanced penalties under driving while
intoxicated law.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Transportation (DOT), the Department of
Health, and Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD). Testimony in
opposition was received from the Public Defender.

Your Committee finds that persons who are highly intoxicated
are an enhanced danger while driving and deserve enhanced
penalties. According to the National Transportation Safety Board,
drivers with a high blood alcohol content pose an increased risk
of crashes, injuries, and fatalities.

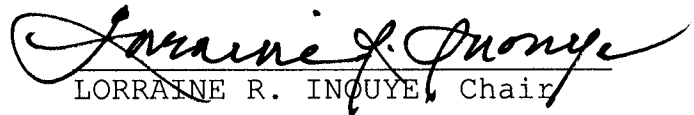
According to the DOT, a person with a 0.15 percent blood
alcohol level is 380 times more likely to be involved in a fatal
crash than a non-drinking driver. Presently, thirty two states
and the District of Columbia have high blood alcohol laws that
adopt the 0.15 standard.



This measure adopts the national MADD recommendations by making sanctions for driving with a high blood alcohol concentration similar to laws for repeat offenders. Upon the recommendation of MADD, your Committee has amended this measure by providing for a six month driver's license revocation and plate impoundment for an administrative revocation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation and Government Operations that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2215, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2215, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Transportation and
Government Operations,


LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair



