

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 21 2007

RE: S.B. No. 1047

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2007
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Transportation and International Affairs,
to which was referred S.B. No. 1047 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAY SAFETY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to allow a driver who is at
least eighteen years of age to obtain a commercial driver's
license to drive in intrastate commerce.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Hawaii Transportation Association. Testimony in
opposition was received from the Department of Transportation and
Honolulu Police Department.

Your Committee finds that there is a shortage of commercial
drivers in Hawaii and the age requirement for commercial licenses
makes recruiting younger individuals, such as high school seniors,
difficult because they have to wait years to obtain a license.

The current age required to receive a commercial driver's
license is twenty-one. This measure would increase the pool of
qualified commercial drivers by lowering the age to eighteen.
Your Committee is keenly aware that lowering the age may not solve
the problem of the shortage of drivers, and may present highway
safety concerns. The measure addresses these concerns by
requiring compliance with federal regulations, limiting the type
of commercial vehicle that can be operated, prohibiting the
transportation of hazardous materials and school passengers and

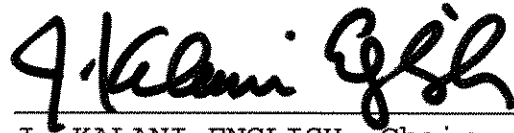


requiring drivers to have prior driving experience and a clean driving record.

In addition, your Committee believes that increasing the eligible pool of commercial drivers will increase demand for commercial driving schools and other instructional programs to enable the licensing of more commercial drivers. High school seniors would be more inclined to consider commercial driving as a career if the license eligibility age were eighteen.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation and International Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1047 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Transportation and
International Affairs,

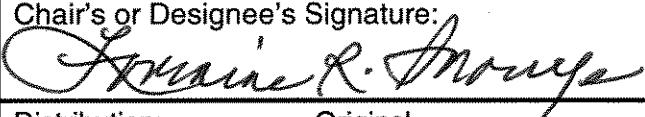


J. KALANI ENGLISH, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Fourth Legislature
 State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Transportation and International Affairs
TIA

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 1047	Committee Referral: TIA	Date: 2/14/07								
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____										
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313										
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused						
ENGLISH, J. Kalani (C)	✓									
INOUE, Lorraine R. (VC)	✓									
ESPERO, Will	✓									
HOOSER, Gary L.	✓									
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.				✓						
TSUTSUI, Shan S.	✓									
GABBARD, Mike	✓									
TOTAL	6			1						
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted										
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 										
Distribution: <table style="width:100%; border:none;"> <tr> <td style="text-align:center;">Original</td> <td style="text-align:center;">Yellow</td> <td style="text-align:center;">Pink</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align:center;">File with Committee Report</td> <td style="text-align:center;">Clerk's Office</td> <td style="text-align:center;">Drafting Agency</td> </tr> </table>					Original	Yellow	Pink	File with Committee Report	Clerk's Office	Drafting Agency
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*Only one measure per Record of Votes