

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1201

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 25, 2009

RE: S.B. No. 979
S.D. 2
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2009
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Transportation, to which was referred S.B. No. 979, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL DRIVERS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to conform state law to federal commercial driver licensing laws by prohibiting the court-issuance of a hardship license for commercial driver's type licenses.

The Department of Transportation (DOT) testified in support of this bill.

Currently, drivers are allowed to obtain what are known as "hardship licenses," that authorize an individual to drive for limited work-related purposes. However, to meet federal regulations, Hawaii's law needs to clarify that "hardship licenses" are not authorized for an individual's commercial driver's license.

Your Committee notes that, according to DOT, failure to meet these requirements could result in the loss of approximately \$4,600,000 in federal-aid highway funds for the first year of non-compliance and \$9,300,000 per year thereafter, which may impact Hawaii's highway fund. This bill will address those concerns.

SB979 HD1 HSCR TRN HMS 2009-3304



Your Committee has amended this bill by changing its effective date from July 1, 2050, to upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 979, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 979, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Transportation,



JOSEPH M. SOUKI, Chair



HSCR120

Record of Votes of the Committee on Transportation

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 979, SD2	Committee Referral: TRN, JUD	Date: 03/23/2009		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
TRN Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. SOUKI, Joseph M. (C)	/			
2. AWANA, Karen Leinani (VC)	/			
3. AQUINO, Henry J.C.	/			
4. HANOHANO, Faye P.	/			
5. KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.	/			
6. LEE, Marilyn B.	/			
7. NAKASHIMA, Mark M.	/			
8. RHOADS, Karl	/			
9. SAIKI, Scott K.	/			
10. TAKUMI, Roy M.	/			
11. YAMASHITA, Kyle T.	/			
12. PINE, Kymberly Marcos	/			
TOTAL (12)	12	0	0	0
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <small style="margin-left: 150px;">committee acronym(s)</small>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				