
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATEWIDE TRAFFIC CODE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 291C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§291C- Heavy vehicles; prohibition; left lane. (a)
5 Whenever any roadway or street has been divided into two or more
6 clearly marked lanes for traffic, any motor vehicle with a gross
7 vehicle weight rating of more than ten thousand pounds shall be
8 prohibited from driving in the left lane.

9 (b) The prohibition in this section shall not apply to
10 mass transit vehicles using zipper lanes and high occupancy
11 vehicle lanes, as defined in section 291C-221; to an emergency
12 vehicle as defined in section 291-11.6; and to any motor vehicle
13 with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than ten thousand
14 pounds that is using the left lane to execute a left turn or to
15 pass a vehicle.

16 (c) As used in this section, "mass transit vehicle" means
17 a bus, including a school bus (but excluding a charter or
18 sightseeing service bus) with a gross vehicle weight rating that



1 is over ten thousand pounds, whether publicly or privately
2 owned, which provides service to the general public or provides
3 special service on a regular or continuing basis."

4 SECTION 2. Section 291C-53, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended to read as follows:

6 **"§291C-53 Restrictions on use of controlled-access roadway**
7 **or highway.** (a) The director of transportation by rules
8 adopted in accordance with chapter 91, and the counties by
9 ordinance, may regulate or prohibit the use of any controlled-
10 access roadway or highway within their respective jurisdictions
11 by any class or kind of traffic which is found to be
12 incompatible with the normal and safe movement of traffic.
13 Persons operating motorcycles which are otherwise permitted on a
14 controlled-access roadway or highway shall be permitted to use
15 any high occupancy vehicle lane designated on such roadway or
16 highway. For the purposes of this subsection, "high occupancy
17 vehicle lane" means a designated lane of a laned roadway where
18 the use of such designated lane is restricted to vehicles
19 carrying at least the minimum number of persons designated by
20 the director of transportation as indicated on official signs
21 and other official traffic-control devices, and to other
22 vehicles as provided by rules adopted in accordance with chapter



1 91, or by county ordinance. Notwithstanding any law to the
2 contrary, no person shall operate a neighborhood electric
3 vehicle on any controlled-access roadway or highway.

4 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary,
5 any motor vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of more
6 than ten thousand pounds shall be prohibited from driving in the
7 left lane of a controlled-access roadway or highway. The
8 prohibition in this subsection shall not apply to mass transit
9 vehicles, as defined in section 291C-(c), using zipper lanes or
10 high occupancy vehicle lanes, as defined in subsection (a).

11 [~~(b)~~] (c) The director of transportation or a county
12 adopting any such prohibition shall erect and maintain official
13 traffic-control devices on the controlled-access roadway or
14 highway on which such prohibitions are applicable and when in
15 place no person shall disobey the restrictions stated on such
16 devices."

17 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
18 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

19 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Karen Awana (BR)

JAN 25 2011



Report Title:

Traffic; Heavy Vehicles

Description:

Prohibits any vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than ten thousand pounds from traveling in the left lane of a multi-lane roadway or street except when turning or passing. Exempts mass transit vehicles using zipper lanes and high occupancy vehicle lanes and emergency vehicles.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

