

JAN 21 2011

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HIGHWAY SAFETY.

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

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

4           "§291-    Towing safety apparatus. (a) No operator of a  
5 motor vehicle shall tow on any highway any trailer, semitrailer,  
6 or pole trailer, or any combination thereof, unless the trailer,  
7 semitrailer, or pole trailer, or any combination thereof, is  
8 secured by a towing safety apparatus to the motor vehicle that  
9 is towing the trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, or any  
10 combination thereof.

11           (b) This section shall be enforceable by police officers  
12 who may issue a summons or citation to the operator for the  
13 violation. An operator who violates this section shall be fined  
14 not less than \$100 and not more than \$500 for each separate  
15 violation.

16           (c) Evidence that a trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer,  
17 or any combination thereof, that breaks away from a motor  
18 vehicle that is towing the trailer, semitrailer, or pole



1 trailer, or any combination thereof, shall be prima facie  
2 evidence of a violation of this section.

3 (d) For purposes of this section, "towing safety  
4 apparatus" means a trailer receiver hitch connected to a ball  
5 mount or draw bar which is secured with a locking pin and chains  
6 or cables to keep the trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or any  
7 combination thereof safely connected to the motor vehicle if the  
8 trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, or any combination thereof  
9 becomes unhitched from the ball mount or draw bar while being  
10 towed.

11 (e) This section shall not apply to towing companies."

12 SECTION 2. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
13 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
14 begun before its effective date.

15 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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

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INTRODUCED BY:

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**Report Title:**

Motor Vehicles; Towing Safety Apparatus

**Description:**

Requires motor vehicles towing a trailer to be equipped with towing safety apparatus.

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

