

SB 2730

Permits driver licensing reciprocity between Hawaii and foreign countries upon certain conditions. Repeals the driver's license reciprocity committee.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



Testimony of
GLENN M. OKIMOTO
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
RANDY GRUNE
AUDREY HIDANO
JADINE URASAKI

IN REPLY REFER TO:

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 4, 2014
1:16 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 224

S.B. 2730
RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVER LICENSING

Senate Committee(s) on Transportation and International Affairs &
Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

The Hawaii Department of Transportation supports this bill that would grant driver license reciprocity between Hawaii and certain foreign countries.

We would recommend the following amendments to this bill:

Adding a section (a) (3) in Section 1 of this bill to read, "While operating a vehicle on public roadways, the nonresident shall possess a current and valid International Driving Permit and driver's license which shall be presented to a law enforcement officer upon demand."

Section 4: This Act shall take effect on January 2034. Implementation of this measure may require evaluation, drafting and holding of public hearings for administrative rules needing implementation.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony.

DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES
CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU
DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLE, LICENSING AND PERMITS
ADMINISTRATION
P.O. BOX 30300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96820-0300

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



SHERI T. KAJIWARA
DIRECTOR

PRESTON P. H. K. KO
ACTING LICENSING ADMINISTRATOR

TESTIMONY OF PRESTON KO, ACTING LICENSING ADMINISTRATOR
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES
Tuesday, February 4, 2014, 1:16 p.m., Conference Room 224

SENATE Bill 2730, "RELATING TO HIGHWAY SAFETY"

Position: Comments

TO: The Honorable J. Kalani English, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Transportation and International Affairs

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and
Military Affairs

The City and County of Honolulu has no objection to S.B. No. 2730 which would permit driver license reciprocity between Hawaii and certain foreign countries.

We recommend that the bill be amended by adding item (3) to Section 1:

"(3) While operating a vehicle on public roadways, the nonresident operator shall possess a current and valid International Driving Permit and driver license which shall be presented to a law enforcement officer upon demand"

The City and County of Honolulu recommends your favorable consideration to the proposed amendment to S.B. No. 2730.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Preston P. H. K. Ko", is written over a circular stamp or seal.

Preston P. H. K. Ko
Acting Licensing Administrator



ALAN M. ARAKAWA
MAYOR

OUR REFERENCE
YOUR REFERENCE

POLICE DEPARTMENT

COUNTY OF MAUI

55 MAHALANI STREET
WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793
(808) 244-6400
FAX (808) 244-6411



GARY A. YABUTA
CHIEF OF POLICE

CLAYTON N.Y.W. TOM
DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE

January 30, 2014

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair
And Members of the Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
The Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

The Honorable J. Kalani English, Chair
And Members of the Committee on Transportation
and International Affairs
The Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Senate Bill No. 2730 - Relating to Highway Safety

Dear Chairs Espero and English, and Members of the Committees:

The **Maui Police Department opposes of SB 2730**. This bill permits driver licensing reciprocity between Hawaii and foreign countries upon certain conditions and repeals the driver's license reciprocity committee.

The Maui Police Department is in opposition of this bill as the current law appears adequate to review requests by foreign countries for driver's license reciprocity. Under the proposed bill a "director" will be the deciding authority on allowing driver's license reciprocity, not a committee.


There is also a matter of driver's license requirements and standards that will not be tested for each driver seeking a Hawaii driver's license. This bill will allow documentation from a foreign government to suffice as proof to bypass the process of obtaining a driver's license. The question that should be addressed is: "Will a foreign government requesting driver's license reciprocity be able to provide computer or file access to confirm their documentation"? There also appears to be no requirement in this bill to allow for road testing of individuals seeking this route to obtain a Hawaii driver's license.

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
The Honorable J. Kalani English, Chair
Committee on Transportation and International Affairs
January 30, 2014
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With these stated concerns, the Maui Police Department asks for your opposition to SB 2730.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

For 
GARY A. YABUTA
Chief of Police