

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 18, 2015

RE: H.B. No. 901

Honorable Joseph M. Souki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Transportation, to which was referred H.B. No. 901 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICLES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to assist the Department of the Attorney General (AG) and Harbors Division of the Department of Transportation (Harbors Division) in enforcing the laws of this State by:

- (1) Allowing the use of blue and red lamps, reflectors, or illumination devices on approved law enforcement vehicles of the AG and Harbors Division; and
- (2) Amending the definition of "authorized emergency vehicle" to include AG and Harbors Division law enforcement vehicles.

The Department of Transportation, AG, and a concerned individual testified in support of this measure.

Under current law, AG investigators have all the powers and authority of a police officer or a deputy sheriff. Appointed enforcement officers of the Harbors Division are conferred the powers of police officers and are tasked with enforcing the laws and regulations for harbors in the State. Despite this law enforcement responsibility and authority, neither department has the official and explicit authority to use law enforcement



vehicles with emergency response lights. This measure would explicitly allow the use of emergency response lights on approved law enforcement vehicles of both departments and assist them in enforcing the laws of the State.

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 H.B. No. 901 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

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



HENRY J.C. AQUINO, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-eighth Legislature

HSCR 288

Record of Votes of the Committee on Transportation

Bill/Resolution No.: <i>HB 901</i>	Committee Referral: <i>TRN, J40</i>	Date: <i>02/11/2015</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input 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. AQUINO, Henry J.C. (C)	X			
2. LOPRESTI, Matthew S. (VC)	X			
3. HAR, Sharon E.	X			
4. ICHIYAMA, Linda	X			
5. JOHANSON, Aaron Ling				X
6. KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett	X			
7. NAKASHIMA, Mark M.	X			
8. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.	X			
9. TAKAYAMA, Gregg	X			
10. TAKUMI, Roy M.	X			
11. YAMASHITA, Kyle T.	X			
12. TUPOLA, Andria P.L.				X
TOTAL (12)	10			2
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. _____ committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
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