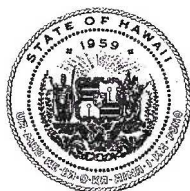


HB901

TESTIMONY

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



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

Testimony by:
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
JADE T. BUTAY
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

March 17, 2016
2:45 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 229

**H.B. 901
RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICLES**

Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **strongly supports** H.B. 901 as part of the Administration's Package.

This measure will authorize the Department of the Attorney General and the DOT, Harbors Division, to affix to their respective law enforcement vehicles blue and red lamps, reflectors, or illumination devices, as approved by the respective departments, and to have such vehicles that are so equipped, duly recognized as "authorized emergency vehicles" under the definition in §291C-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Such designation has already been provided to the county police, the Department of Public Safety, and the Department of Land and Natural Resources. This housekeeping measure corrects the prior omission, and includes the law enforcement vehicles of the Department of the Attorney General and the DOT, Harbors Division.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE, 2016**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 901, RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICLES.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY

DATE: Thursday, March 17, 2016 **TIME:** 2:45 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 229

TESTIFIER(S): Douglas S. Chin, Attorney General, or
Lance M. Goto, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Inouye and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General supports this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to enable the Attorney General and the Harbors Division of the Department of Transportation to have law enforcement vehicles that are recognized authorized emergency vehicles under the law, with lights and sirens, by amending sections 291-31.5(a) and 291C-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS).

Under chapter 28, HRS, the Attorney General is tasked with investigating and prosecuting violations of law. Investigators with the Department or the Attorney General have all the powers and authority of a police officer or a deputy sheriff. Under chapter 266, HRS, the Director of Transportation and any appointed enforcement officer are conferred the powers of police officers and are tasked with enforcing the laws and regulations for harbors in the State. Despite that law enforcement responsibility and authority, neither department has the official and explicit authority to use law enforcement vehicles with emergency response lights. This bill will provide the departments with that capability, which has already been granted to the county police, the Department of Public Safety, and the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

The Department respectfully requests the passage of this bill.

Kaala Coleman

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 1:22 PM
To: TRE Testimony
Cc: victor.ramos@mpd.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB901 on Mar 17, 2016 14:45PM*

HB901

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for TRE on Mar 17, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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