

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE WEIGHT TAX.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Hawaii Revised  
2 Statutes imposes a state motor vehicle weight tax for various  
3 types of vehicles and authorizes the counties to impose their  
4 own motor vehicle weight tax.

5           The legislature finds that residents with a disability who  
6 purchase or retrofit a non-commercial vehicle with a lift or  
7 ramp designed to provide ingress and egress in the vehicle by  
8 the person with disability pay more in state and county motor  
9 vehicle weight taxes in comparison to residents with non-  
10 modified vehicles. The extra weight of the vehicle is due to  
11 the lifts and ramps, any required motors, and additional  
12 reinforcement of the vehicle chassis.

13           The purpose of this Act is to exempt the weight of any  
14 lifts or ramps installed to assist a person with a disability on  
15 a non-commercial vehicle for purposes of computing annual state  
16 and county motor vehicle weight taxes.



1 SECTION 2. Section 249-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending the definition of "net weight" to read as  
3 follows:

4 "Net weight" of a vehicle means the actual weight of the  
5 vehicle, as determined on a standard scale, including all  
6 equipment and accessories ordinarily attached to and used on the  
7 vehicle and, in the case of a motor vehicle, the maximum fuel,  
8 oil, and water possible of being carried for its operation;  
9 provided that "net weight" of a new standard equipped vehicle,  
10 other than a motor vehicle, means the shipping weight thereof as  
11 established by its manufacturer, and "net weight" of a new  
12 standard equipped passenger vehicle means the shipping weight  
13 thereof as established by its manufacturer, plus one hundred  
14 pounds, and "net weight" of a new standard equipped motorcycle,  
15 motor scooter, or moped, means the shipping weight thereof as  
16 established by its manufacturer, plus thirty pounds, and "net  
17 weight" of a new standard equipped truck means the shipping  
18 weight thereof as established by its manufacturer, plus two  
19 hundred pounds. On initial registration of a standard equipped  
20 vehicle, other than a motor vehicle, for which the director of  
21 finance has the manufacturer's established weight, the director



1 of finance, in lieu of requiring the vehicle to be weighed and  
2 in order to determine the "net weight" thereof, may use such  
3 established weight and may require the owner to furnish  
4 verification of the factory serial number of the vehicle. On  
5 initial registration of standard equipped passenger vehicles,  
6 motorcycles, motor scooters, mopeds, and trucks for which the  
7 director of finance has the manufacturer's established weights,  
8 the director of finance, in lieu of requiring such motor  
9 vehicles to be weighed and in order to determine the "net  
10 weight" thereof, may use such established weights, adding one  
11 hundred pounds in the case of standard equipped passenger  
12 vehicles, thirty pounds in the case of standard equipped  
13 motorcycles, motor scooters, and mopeds, and two hundred pounds  
14 in the case of standard equipped trucks, and may require the  
15 owners to furnish verification of factory serial and engine  
16 numbers of such motor vehicles. As to a vehicle for which the  
17 manufacturer's weight is not available or whose make and model  
18 cannot be determined with reasonable certainty or which has been  
19 so altered as to increase or diminish the weight thereof, "net  
20 weight" means the actual weight of such vehicle, as determined  
21 on a standard scale, including all equipment and accessories



1 ordinarily attached to and used on the vehicle and, in the case  
2 of a motor vehicle, the maximum fuel, oil, and water possible of  
3 being carried for its operation. Notwithstanding the foregoing  
4 provisions, for all non-commercial vehicles, the weight of any  
5 vehicle modifications made to assist a person with a disability  
6 to enter or exit the vehicle, including but not limited to  
7 lifts, ramps, motors to power lifts or ramps, and chassis  
8 reinforcements, shall be excluded from the determination of the  
9 vehicle's net weight. In all cases information shall be  
10 presented to and in the manner prescribed by the director of  
11 finance."

12 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

13 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.



**Report Title:**

Motor Vehicle Weight Tax; Exemption for Lifts and Ramps

**Description:**

Excludes the weight of disability access modifications from the determination of net weight for non-commercial vehicles for purposes of levying the state and county motor vehicle weight tax. Takes effect on 7/1/2019. (CD1)

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

