



**TESTIMONY BY:**

JADE T. BUTAY  
DIRECTOR

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

February 12, 2019  
4:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 325



**H.B. 1234, H.D.1**  
**RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES.**

Senate Committee on Judiciary

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.B. 1234, H.D.1 and offers the following comments.

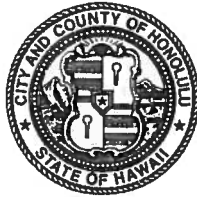
The DOT supports the requirement of an application for motor vehicle registration to include more detailed information and authorizes the counties to assess a fine to the legal or registered owner of a vehicle that is deemed abandoned.

However, the DOT does have concerns with Section 4 of the bill. The data sources for driver's licenses, motor vehicle registration, traffic citations and motor vehicle control are not under the control of DOT. The City & County Department of Information Technology collects or stores all data relating to motor vehicles, such as registration data and holders of driver's licenses. The Judiciary collects and stores traffic citation data.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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OUR REFERENCE  
DI-MK

February 12, 2019

The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Judiciary  
House of Representatives  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 325  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Lee and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 1234, H.D. 1, Relating to Motor Vehicles

I am Major Darren Izumo of District 5 (Kalihi) of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports the intent of House Bill No. 1234, H.D. 1, Relating to Motor Vehicles, which requires an application for motor vehicle registration to include more detailed information and authorizes counties to assess a fine to the legal owner of a vehicle deemed abandoned.

The additional registration information would help in holding owners more accountable should they abandon their vehicle. In the experience of the HPD, many vehicles are abandoned due to the lack of a current registration and/or insurance. The requirement for repossession could also be a deterrent to legally dispose of an abandoned vehicle.

The HPD urges you to consider amendments to House Bill No. 1234, H.D. 1, Relating to Motor Vehicles.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darren Izumo".

Darren Izumo, Major  
District 5

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Ballard".

Susan Ballard  
Chief of Police



**SanHi**

GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES  
A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

DATE: February 11, 2019

TO: Representative Chris Lee  
Chair, Committee on Judiciary

*Submitted Via Capitol Website*

FROM: Matt Tsujimura

RE: **H.B. 1234, H.D. 1 – Relating to Motor Vehicles**  
**Hearing Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.**  
**Conference Room: 325**

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Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary:

We submit this testimony on behalf of Enterprise Holdings (“Enterprise”), which includes Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Alamo Rent-A-Car, National Car Rental, Enterprise CarShare and Enterprise Commute (Van Pool).

Enterprise **submits comments** on H.B.1234, H.D.1, which, among other things, authorizes counties to assess a fine against the legal or registered owner of a vehicle deemed abandoned. While Enterprise believes it is good public policy to deter individuals from abandoning vehicles on public streets and highways, Enterprise is concerned about the application of the H.B.1234, H.D.1 within the context of the rental car industry.

Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”), § 290-12 currently imposes a fine of not more than \$1,000 on the registered owner of an abandoned or derelict vehicle. Enterprise is concerned that section 2 of H.B. 1234, H.D.1 appears to be duplicative of HRS §290-12, as both the existing law and the proposed language address imposing a fine of \$1,000 on the registered owner of the vehicle.

If the committee is inclined to move H.B.1234, H.D.1, Enterprise would propose either 1) deleting the language at page 3, line 20 to page 4, line 3 or 2) for consistency, including the following amendment:

(d) The counties may assess a fine of \$1,000 against the legal or registered owner of a vehicle that is deemed abandoned pursuant to this section, ***provided that the registered owner shall not be fined if the abandoned or derelict vehicle has been stolen or taken from the registered owner without permission or authorization. The fines***

**collected pursuant to this subsection shall be deposited into the general fund of the county that collected the fine.**

This would ensure that the language is consistent with existing law, and does not apply to situations where a vehicle is stolen or taken from the registered owner of the vehicle. In the case of rental car companies, they are technically the registered owner of the vehicle and are not subject to the fine under this existing exemption.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

**HB-1234-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/9/2019 5:22:25 AM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2019 4:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robert Quartero	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

Aloha Kakou,

I DO NOT SUPPORT HB 1234. As written, this act will increase the problem with abandoned vehicles. HB 1234's intent is clear in it's design to allow for accountable practices and policies however, where insurance is not a form of property ownership but is in fact a contract for services with another party, requiring insurance on an abandoned vehicle before the County will allow private/public repossession of a vehicle is financially punitive and serves no purpose in resolving possessory rights. By requiring insurance to repossess ones vehicle, this act infers that said vehicle must be or will be 'driven' away. That is completely unfair and where many times, vehicles are towed away instead of driven, a blanket requirement for insurance is null and void.

Regards,

Robert Quartero

**HB-1234-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/11/2019 4:11:17 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2019 4:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
joseph simpliciano	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This makes sense and holding people accountable that do the wrong thing saves taxpayers money in the long run. Why hasn't something like this been done before? Is it because it's too easy to raise the taxes on Motor vehicle registration to cover the cost of towing? That's a no, no. I support this bill as it will also catch military members who dump vehicles when they PCs.