



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN
DEREK J. CHOW
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

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

February 8, 2019
10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 423

H.B. 326
RELATING TO COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSES.

House Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation **supports with amendments** H.B. 326.

This bill will allow current or former military service members that meet Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration requirements to obtain a Hawaii commercial driver's license (CDL) without requiring the CDL applicant to take the general and specialized knowledge tests to safely operate the commercial motor vehicle being applied for.

Currently Section 1, lines 3 - 7 reads as follows:

“(b) The examiner of drivers may waive the knowledge or driving skills tests specified in this section for a commercial driver's license applicant who meets the requirements of title 49 Code of Federal Regulations section 383.77 or 383.123(b).”

We recommend that Section 1 be amended to replace the words “knowledge or” with “knowledge and” as follows:

“(b) The examiner of drivers may waive the knowledge and driving skills tests specified in this section for a commercial driver's license applicant who meets the requirements of title 49 Code of Federal Regulations section 383.77 or 383.123(b).”

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

MISSION MEMORIAL BUILDING
550 SOUTH KING STREET, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 768-3392 FAX: (808) 768-1591
<http://www.honolulu.gov>

LATE

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



SHERI T. KAJIWARA
DIRECTOR

RANDY M. LEONG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TESTIMONY OF ABUL HASSAN, LICENSING ADMINISTRATOR
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES
Friday, February 8, 2019, 10:00 a.m., Conference Room 423

HOUSE BILL 326, "Relating to Commercial Driver's Licenses"

TO: The Honorable Henry J. C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Troy N. Hashimoto, Vice Chair
and Members of the Committee on Transportation

The Department of Customer Services of the City and County of Honolulu **supports the intent** of H.B. No. 326 which authorizes the examiner of drivers to waive the knowledge test for a commercial driver's license applicant.

The Division of Motor Vehicle, Licensing and Permits is the entity that administers the commercial driver licensing program through oversight provided by the State Department of Transportation.

We are generally supportive of any ability that provides us greater discretion within which to operate. However, we would request that the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) referenced in the measure be removed and that statutory language simply reference Title 49. This is to ensure that we do not end up in a situation where CFR 383.77 is referenced by interested parties to require waiver of the knowledge test by U.S. service members. We do not agree that operation of commercial vehicles under the U.S. military is an equivalent substitute for dealing with a civilian population with its varying nuances on a day-to-day basis. As such, although this bill provides us with the ability to waive the knowledge test in such instances, our instruction to staff would be that they not exercise such authority.

Additionally, CFR 383.123 refers to school bus endorsements. In light of such operators dealing with a very sensitive population, we would prefer to certify a higher requirement for such a license and not a lesser one.

We, therefore, request that the CFR references be stricken and that Title 49 which is the transportation code simply be referenced in statute.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the intent of H.B. No. 326.



February 8, 2019

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
ON HB 326 RELATING TO COMMERCIAL DRIVERS LICENSES**

Aloha Chair Aquino and committee members. I am Gareth Sakakida Managing Director of the Hawaii Transportation Association (HTA) with over 375 members involved with the commercial ground transportation industry.

HTA supports this bill.

This would enable Hawaii to conform - if it chooses to do so - to changes made by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration in their effort to ease the commercial driver shortage.

The waivers noted apply to applicants with military Commercial Motor Vehicle experience and requires a host of safety conditions.

Mahalo.