

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



TESTIMONY BY:

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

February 8, 2019
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Room 423

H.B. 788
RELATING TO THE STATEWIDE TRAFFIC CODE.

House Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.B. 788.

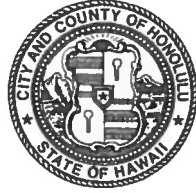
This bill requires police officers to cite persons who operate a motor vehicle without a current, valid registration emblem and current, valid inspection sticker.

DOT believes that passing this bill will contribute to highway safety by helping to ensure that vehicles that are used on the public roads are legal and have met the requirements of the State's safety inspection program.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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OUR REFERENCE **AP-GR**

February 8, 2019

The Honorable Henry J. C. Aquino, Chair
and Members
Committee on Transportation
House of Representatives
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 423
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Aquino and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 788, Relating to the Statewide Traffic Code

I am Andre Peters, Acting Captain of the Traffic Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

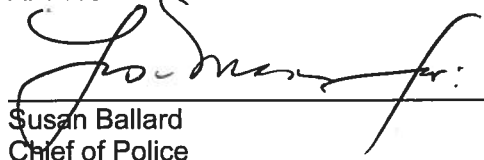
The HPD supports the passage of House Bill No. 788, Relating to the Statewide Traffic Code. For years, individuals have purposely not registered their vehicles knowing that if they received a citation, it would be dismissed in court because they are not the registered owner on file. This legislation would close the loophole that only registered owners can be held liable for not updating their vehicles. It clearly defines that anyone who operates a vehicle within the state must have a current tax and safety inspection emblem. Currently, the system is able to print the license plate or vehicle identification number on the tax and safety emblems, which eliminates the excuse that the operator did not know the vehicle that they were operating was not registered. It puts sole responsibility on the operator to ensure that the emblems are current before driving within the state.

The only concern we have with this bill is the language on line 11 where it states that the law enforcement officer "shall" issue a citation to any person that violates this section. The HPD believes that it should read "may" to give officers the discretion whether to cite the person or not.

The HPD urges you to support House Bill No. 788, Relating to Statewide Traffic Code

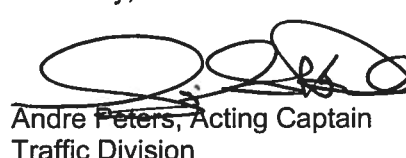
Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:



Susan Ballard
Chief of Police

Sincerely,



Andre Peters, Acting Captain
Traffic Division

From: Dennis Egge <dne39@isp.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 7, 2019 4:02 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: Rep. Linda Ichiyama; chaceshigemasa@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony in support of HB 788

RELATING TO THE STATEWIDE TRAFFIC CODE:

Aloha Transportation Committee Chair Henry J.C. Aquino and Vice Chair Troy N. Hashimoto: I firmly believe the Statewide Traffic Code should require law enforcement officials to issue mandatory citations for subject missing/expired Registration Tag or Emblem, or Safety Inspection Sticker. This will remind subject vehicle operators of their responsibility, to inform the concerned public, regarding their vehicle's status, instead of maybe storing these documents away from the concerned public view(?) Knowing their vehicle's official status is recorded in the 911HPD database, using the excuse that "someone might steal these meant for public display documents", is patently disingenuous; duplicates are available.

Mahalo for considering my emailed late testimony, and being there for all of us, Dennis Egge; 2920 Ala Ilima, Honolulu HI 96818