

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2679

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 13 2020

RE: S.B. No. 2994
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2020
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Transportation and Public Safety,
Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs, to which was referred
S.B. No. 2994 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAY SAFETY,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to improve traffic
safety by establishing the Photo Red Light Imaging Detector
Systems Program and authorizing the counties to administer the
program.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Transportation; Honolulu Police Department;
Department of Transportation Services; County of Hawaii, Office of
the Mayor; Maui Police Department; Disability and Communication
Access Board; Hawaii Public Health Institute; Blue Zones Project;
AAA Hawaii, LLC; Hawaii Bicycling League; Mothers Against Drunk
Driving; and twenty-one individuals. Your Committees received
testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the
Public Defender and two individuals. Your Committees received
comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and
Finance, Hawaii State Judiciary, and one individual.

Your Committees find that the prevalence of drivers violating
Hawaii's traffic laws has become intolerable, particularly drivers
who run red lights. These violations endanger the lives of



motorists and pedestrians and compound the already hazardous conditions on Hawaii's roads and highways. Disregarding traffic signals has also been the common denominator in many recent, highly publicized motor vehicle crashes that have claimed several lives.

Your Committees further find that in jurisdictions in the United States, Canada, Europe, and other countries throughout the world, photo red light imaging detector systems have been proven safe, cost-effective, reliable, and efficient in identifying and deterring those who run red lights. No traffic stop is involved, and a police officer is not at risk from passing traffic or armed violators. With photo red light imaging detector systems, a camera is positioned at intersections where red light violations are a major cause of collisions and serves as a twenty-four-hour deterrent to running a red light. Sensors are buried under a crosswalk and lead to a self-contained camera system mounted on a nearby structure. When a vehicle enters the intersection against a red light, the camera takes a telephoto color picture of the rear of the car, capturing the license plate. A second wide-angle photograph takes in the entire intersection, including other traffic.

Your Committees further find that the photo speed imaging detector system created by Act 234, Session Laws of Hawaii 1998, and implemented in January 2002, generated intense public opposition. As a result of this opposition, the Legislature repealed Act 234 in its entirety. However, most of the opposition to this program resulted from the method by which the program was implemented. The public perceived that the program was operated more to maximize revenue for the vendor running the program than to improve traffic safety. In particular, vans in which the cameras were mounted were often placed at locations that did not necessarily have a history of speed-related accidents and instead were used to monitor locations with heavy traffic flow at lower speeds. This permitted the vendor to issue the maximum number of citations in the shortest period of time and at the least cost, thereby maximizing the potential return to the vendor without improving traffic safety.

Your Committees further find that Act 131, Session Laws of Hawaii 2019, created the red-light running committee, whose purpose was to "develop policy recommendations for red light

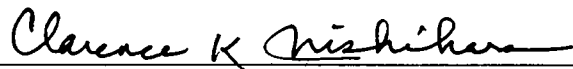


running programs in the city and county of Honolulu, and the counties of Maui, Kauai, and Hawaii." After examining the red light running programs of Washington, Illinois, New York, and Florida, the red light running committee found that red light photo enforcement programs are a promising tool that, when implemented properly, can save lives and reduce injuries by changing drivers' behaviors and lead to safer driving habits. Based on their findings, the red-light running committee made several policy recommendations, which are reflected in this measure.

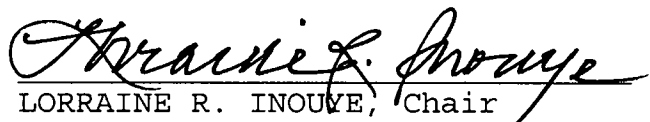
Your Committees report that the Hawaii State Judiciary testified that the measure be modified to eliminate ambiguities. Accordingly, your Committees have amended this measure by adding language that makes clear that the citations will be issued to the registered owner of the motor vehicle.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Transportation and Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2994, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2994, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Transportation
and Public Safety,
Intergovernmental, and Military
Affairs,



CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, Chair

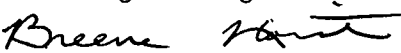


LORRAINE R. INOUÉ, Chair



The Senate
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Transportation
TRS

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB2994	TRS/PSM, JDC	2/7/20		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
INOUYE, Lorraine R. (C)	✓			
HARIMOTO, Breene (VC)	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani				✓
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt		✓		
TOTAL	3	1	0	1
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
Distribution:				
Original	Yellow	Pink	Goldenrod	
File with Committee Report	Clerk's Office	Drafting Agency	Committee File Copy	

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
PSM

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 2994	Committee Referral: TRIS/PSM, JDC	Date: 2/7/2020		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (C)	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn (VC)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H.	✓			
HARIMOTO, Breene	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt		✓		
TOTAL	4	1	0	0
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

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