



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

March 11, 2020
1:15 P.M.
State Capitol, Room 225

H.B. 2253, H.D. 1
RELATING TO THE TRAFFIC CODE

Senate Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.B. 2253, H.D. 1 which proposes to amend the statewide traffic code to allow for the Chairperson of Board of Land and Natural Resources and County Chiefs of Police to designate state or county employees or contractors to issue citations for traffic violations.

Certain locations on the State Highway system are located in the vicinity of recreation areas which are attractions to residents and visitors alike. Many of these attractions lack adequate facilities to accommodate the often-heavy demand for parking, and as a result, vehicles are often parked along the State highway in locations which result in hazards to pedestrians, cyclists and motorists. With the support of local law enforcement, the DOT has responded by posting No Parking signs, but local law enforcement resources are limited such that regular enforcement of the No Parking zones is not feasible. H.B. 2253, H.D. 1 provides an opportunity for additional manpower to issue parking citations in these areas, which will enhance the safety of the State Highways for all users.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
TRANSPORTATION**

**Wednesday, March 11, 2020
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2253, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO THE TRAFFIC CODE**

House Bill 2253, House Draft 1 proposes to amend the statewide traffic code to allow for the Chairperson of Board of Land and Natural Resources and county chiefs of police to designate state or county employees or contractors to issue citations for traffic violations. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure.**

The number of visitors who visit State parks, trails, and scenic areas has increased steadily, resulting in visitors parking illegally on State highways in remote areas. This impacts not only those areas, but also adjacent communities, private lands, and road corridors servicing these attractions. Unlike the State Airport and Harbor Divisions of the Department of Transportation, the Highway Division does not have an enforcement branch.

The Department's Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE), along with City and County police departments provide needed enforcement in special no stopping, standing, or parking zones along state highways adjacent to our State Park areas such as at Hā'ena and Waimea Canyon State Parks on Kaua'i, and the parks and waysides along the Hāna Highway on Maui.

Due to the shortage of law enforcement officers throughout the State, the State and City and Counties would like the flexibility of assigning other state and city and county employees, as well as contracted parking vendors to cite illegally parked cars in designated special no stopping, standing, or parking zones along State Highways.

This bill proposes to provide the Department with an additional management tool and will ultimately improve safety for all highway users and pedestrians and minimize negative impacts of illegally parked cars to surrounding neighborhoods and off-limits areas. It will also have the ancillary benefit of freeing up law enforcement officers for criminal and resource violations deemed more critical than simple parking infractions.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

1010 Richards Street, Room 118 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
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March 11, 2020

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill 2253, HD1 – Relating to the Traffic Code

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) **SUPPORTS** House Bill 2253, HD1. This bill would authorize the chairperson of the board of land and natural resources to designate state employees or contractors, and the county police chiefs to designate county employees or contractors, as empowered to cite vehicles for certain traffic code violations.

While DCAB administers the statewide parking program for people with disabilities, only the county police and the Department of Accounting and General Services are authorized to enforce the provisions found in Hawaii Revised Statutes 291 Part III. One of the most common complaints DCAB receives is from people who observe a vehicle parked in a reserved accessible space without a disability parking permit, contact an enforcement agency, and discover that the agency is unable to respond in a timely manner. Expanding the number of people who are authorized to issue citations will help to alleviate this situation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

KIRBY L. SHAW
Executive Director



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David Y. Ige
Governor

Chris Tatum
President and Chief Executive Officer

Statement of
CHRIS TATUM

Hawai'i Tourism Authority
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Wednesday, March 11, 2020
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room #225

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL NO. 2253 HD1
RELATING TO THE TRAFFIC CODE

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Harimoto, and members of the Committee on Transportation: the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) **supports** House Bill 2253 HD1, which amends the statewide traffic code to allow for the chairperson of the BLNR and county chiefs of police to designate state or county employees or contractors to issue citations for certain traffic violations.

HB2253 HD1 would help to improve public safety by strengthening the enforcement of special no stopping, standing or parking zones throughout Hawai'i – some areas of which are frequented by visitors. We realize there's a shortage of police officers, and that in certain areas, especially rural ones, it can be difficult to cite all of the vehicles that are illegally parked. This would give law enforcement some much needed help.

It is for these reasons that the HTA **supports** HB2253 HD1. We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony.



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
THE COUNTY OF KAUA'I

DEREK S. K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR
MICHAEL A. DAHILIG, MANAGING DIRECTOR

Testimony of Michael A. Dahilig
Managing Director, County of Kauai

Before the
Senate Committee on Transportation
March 11, 2020; 1:15 pm
Conference Room 225

In consideration of
House Bill 2253 HD1
Relating to the Traffic Code

Honorable Chair Inouye, Vice Chair San Harimoto, and Members of the Committee:

The County of Kauai **strongly supports** HB 2253 HD1 which amends the statewide traffic code to allow for the chairperson of the BLNR and county chiefs of police to designate state or county employees or contractors to issue citations for traffic violations.

As stated in previous testimony, our state and county parks and beaches are overwhelmed with residents and visitors alike. Often parking restrictions or regulations are not in place or are ignored by people eager to enjoy our great outdoors whether it be our beautiful hiking trails or sandy beaches. With this, cars are often left dangerously parked on our state highways and county roads.

With a shortage in police officers in our Kauai Police Department and on police forces across our islands, we are challenged with addressing these parking violations. By adding capacity with designated state, city and county employees' ability to cite cars parked or stopped in violation of state traffic laws, we may tackle and deter these behaviors.

We are grateful for the assistance the Legislature has provided thus far in protecting resource areas that are heavily impacted by tourism, and appreciate this next step in providing the needed tools to adequately manage and protect our sensitive places while addressing community safety.

Thank you for your consideration in passing this measure.





DEREK S. K. KAWAKAMI
Mayor

MICHAEL A. DAHLIG
Managing Director

POLICE DEPARTMENT COUNTY OF KAUAI

3990 KAANA STREET, SUITE 200
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TODD G. RAYBUCK
Chief of Police

Testimony of Todd G. Raybuck
Chief of Police
Kaua'i Police Department

Before the
Senate Committee on Transportation
March 11, 2020; 1:15 pm
Conference Room 225

In consideration of
House Bill 2253 HD1
Relating to the Traffic Code

Honorable Chair Inouye, Honorable Vice Chair Harimoto and Members of the Committee:

The Kaua'i Police Department (KPD) **strongly supports** House Bill 2253 HD1, which amends the statewide traffic code to allow for the chairperson of the BLNR and county chiefs of police to designate state or county employees or contractors to issue citations for traffic violations.

As stated in previous testimony, Kaua'i has seen a drastic increase in parking violations, particularly on the North Shore of Kauai. The parking violations cause a potentially unsafe situation for motorists and pedestrians and have the potential to delay emergency response due to the congestion caused by the illegal parking.

The State of Hawaii Highways Division does not have an enforcement branch; therefore, the KPD has been the primary entity enforcing parking violations to keep residents and visitors safe. However, as does most law enforcement agencies throughout the Nation, KPD has limited resources. The KPD is unable to consistently enforce parking violations due to the volume of critical calls for service experienced daily, coupled with a shortage of personnel.



Having the ability to designate other State or County employees or a contractor with authority to issue citations for traffic violations, would allow for more consistent enforcement of parking violations, thereby increasing public safety and freeing up police resources to address critical calls for service.

For these reasons the Kauai Police Department **strongly supports** House Bill 2253 HD1.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Todd G. Raybuck". The signature is stylized, with the first letters of each name being prominent and the last name ending in a long, sweeping flourish.

Todd G. Raybuck
Chief of Police
Kaua'i Police Department



From: [Carrice Gardner](#)
To: [TRSTestimony](#)
Subject: TESTIMONY - HB2253: Relating to the Traffic Code. Hearing date: 3/11/2020
Date: Monday, March 9, 2020 8:47:26 AM

Dear Members of the Transportation Committee:

I strongly support HB 2253. Over time, the number of tourists who visit Hawaii State Parks, trails, and scenic areas has significantly increased. Their traffic has contributed to visitors parking illegally on State highways in remote areas, resulting in safety concerns for emergency vehicles and others who transverse along our roads. As a Kauai resident, I have seen this most clearly on our North Shore at Haena State Park. However, I know that illegally parked vehicles pose a safety concern in other areas of our island and throughout the State of Hawaii.

HDOT State Highway's does not have an enforcement branch and relies on City and County police departments provide needed enforcement in special no stopping, standing, or parking zones along State highways. However due to the shortage of police officers as well as State law enforcement officers throughout Hawaii, the State and City and Counties would like the flexibility of assigning other state and city and county employees to cite illegally parked cars in designated special no stopping, standing, or parking zones along State Highways. This bill will help to improve safety for all highway users, first responders and pedestrians, and minimize negative impacts of illegally parked cars to surrounding neighborhoods. Additionally, it would help to better manager visitors to Hawaii's special places – which has been a growing frustration for residents in the affected communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please support HB2253 as it will make a huge difference in our communities.

Sincerely,

--

Carrice Caspillo Gardner
808.635.8122

LATE

HB-2253-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 9:46:11 AM

Testimony for TRS on 3/11/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rayne	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: