

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
TRANSPORTATION

Friday, January 31, 2020
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 423

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2253
RELATING TO THE TRAFFIC CODE

House Bill 2253 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 provides 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.



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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January 31, 2020

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill 2253 – Relating to the Traffic Code

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) **SUPPORTS** House Bill 2253. This bill would authorize the chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources to designate state employees or contractors, or the county police chiefs to designate county employees or contractors, as empowered to cite vehicles for certain traffic code violations, including illegally parked vehicles.

While DCAB administers the statewide parking program for disabled persons, county police departments, the Department of Accounting and General Services, and the Department of Transportation are authorized to enforce the parking violations provisions found in Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 291, Part III Parking for Disabled Persons. However, one of the more 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. Thus, increasing the number of agencies and persons who are authorized to issue citations will help to alleviate this situation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

LATE

Respectfully submitted,

KIRBY L. SHAW
Executive Director



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
House Committee on Transportation
January 31, 2020; 10:00 am
Conference Room 423

In consideration of
House Bill 2253
Relating to the Traffic Code

Honorable Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and Members of the Committee:

The County of Kauai **strongly supports** HB 2253 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.

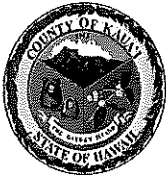
Our state and county parks and beaches are overwhelmed with residents and visitors alike. Often parking restrictions or regulations are not in place or are ignored by people eager to enjoy our great outdoors whether it be our beautiful hiking trails or sandy beaches. With this, cars are often left dangerously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

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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
January 31, 2020; 10:00 am
Conference Room 224

In consideration of
House Bill 2253
Relating to an Amendment of Statewide Traffic Code

Honorable Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and Members of the Committee:

Good morning, I am County of Kauai Police Chief Todd Raybuck. On behalf of the Kauai Police Department, I would like to thank you for considering my written testimony in regards to amending the statewide traffic code to allow county chiefs of police and for the chairperson of the BLNR to designate state or county employees or contractors to issue citations for traffic violations.

I am writing to register testimony in **strong support** of HB 2253. This amendment would improve public safety, improve the efficiency of first responders being able to respond to priority calls, and provide better community relations by potentially having a dedicated parking enforcement presence that could educate the public and issue citations when necessary. Due to the shortage of police officers throughout the State, the State and City and Counties would like the flexibility of assigning other state, city and county employees to cite illegally parked cars in designated special no stopping, standing, or parking zones along State Highways.

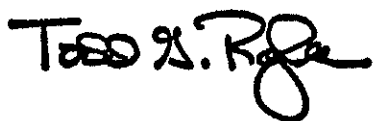
Kauai in particular has seen a drastic increase in parking violators, particularly on the north shore areas of Haena Beach Park, Lumahai, Tunnels, and Cold Pond. As of January 25th 2020, 211 parking citations were issued by KPD officers for illegal parking in the locations mentioned. This does not take into account the number of citations issued by State law enforcement, or warnings issued. The rise in parking violators is due to increased tourism combined with limited parking in the area. Unlike the State Airport and Harbor Divisions, the Highway division does not have an enforcement branch. City and County police departments provide needed enforcement in special no stopping, standing, or parking zones along State highways. This bill will ultimately



improve safety for all highway users and pedestrians and minimize negative impacts of illegally parked vehicles.

Thank you for your consideration of this bill amendment.

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 large, looping flourish.

Todd G. Raybuck
Chief of Police
Kauai Police Department





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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
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Friday, January 31, 2020
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room #423

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

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and members of the Committee on Transportation: the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) **supports** House Bill 2253, 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 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. We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony.

HB-2253

Submitted on: 1/30/2020 7:50:39 AM

Testimony for TRN on 1/31/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chipper Wichman	National Tropical Botanical Garden	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Aquino and Vice Chair Hashimoto and members of the House Transportation Committee,

I am STONGLY in support of HB 2253 (Meter maid Bill) as it will provide new tools to help our community deal with the excessive number of cars whose drivers completely disregard the no parking zones set up to ensure the safety of the public and help manage visitor numbers in our community. I am testifying today as the President of the National Tropical Botanical Garden which operates four botanical gardens in Hawaii including two that are heavily impacted by illegally parked cars. Limahuli Garden and Preserve located on the north shore of Kauai is located immediately adjacent to HÄ• 'ena State Park and has been very involved (as I have been personally) with establishing the No Parking Zones in HÄ• 'ena to help manage the thousands of visitors that overwhelm our community every day.

While our situation maybe a great example, we are not the only community dealing with this. The number of tourists who visit State parks, trails, and scenic areas has increased steadily, resulting in visitors parking illegally on State highways in many remote areas around the State. Unlike the State Airport and Harbor Divisions, the Highway division does not have an enforcement branch. City and County police departments provide needed enforcement in special no stopping, standing, or parking zones along State highways. Due to the shortage of police officers throughout the State, 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 ultimately improve safety for all highway users and pedestrians and minimize negative impacts of illegally parked cars to surrounding neighborhoods.

Thank you for your support of HB2253 it will make a huge difference!!!!

Aloha, Chipper

Chipper Wichman, Ph.D., FLS, President

NATIONAL TROPICAL BOTANICAL GARDEN

PH: (808) 332-6500 (direct line)

Email: wichman@ntbg.org

The mission of the National Tropical Botanical Garden is to enrich life through discovery, scientific research, conservation, and education by perpetuating the survival of plants, ecosystems, and cultural knowledge of tropical regions.

Dear Chair Aquino and Vice Chair Hashimoto and members of the House 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



HB-2253

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 10:18:57 PM

Testimony for TRN on 1/31/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl Imperato	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly urge you to support HB 2253.

Illegal parking has for a long time created serious congestion and safety problems on Kauai's north shore; and the well-known lack of a sufficient number of police officers to enforce parking regulations further encourages drivers to ignore parking regulations, secure in the knowledge that it is very unlikely that they will be cited.

By enabling qualified parties other than police officers to issue citations, HB2253 would help to restore credibility to the state's parking regulations, increase compliance with those regulations, and reduce congestion and increase safety along the affected highways and roads.

For these reasons, please vote in favor of HB2553.