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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1       SECTION 1. The legislature finds that some individuals and  
2 entities intentionally abandon vehicles on roads and highways  
3 throughout the State, and that it is difficult for the counties  
4 to recoup the costs of towing and disposal. The legislature  
5 further finds that if the counties were able to require that the  
6 costs of towing and disposal be paid as a condition precedent to  
7 registration of vehicles, the counties would have an easier time  
8 recouping their costs.

9       SECTION 2. Section 286-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
10 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

11       "(a) The certificate of registration for each motor  
12 vehicle in the counties of the State shall be renewed on a  
13 staggered basis as established by each county. The director of  
14 finance of each county may adopt rules to carry out the purposes  
15 stated in this section and shall expend the necessary funds from  
16 the director's operating funds as may be necessary for these  
17 purposes; provided that the director of finance, if the director



1 has ascertained as of the date of the application that the  
2 registered owner has not deposited or paid bail with respect to  
3 any summons or citation issued to the registered owner for  
4 stopping, standing, or parking in violation of traffic  
5 ordinances within the county, or has outstanding charges owed to  
6 the county for the towing, removal, or disposal of an abandoned  
7 or derelict vehicle within the county, may require, as a  
8 condition precedent to the renewal, that the registered owner  
9 deposit or pay bail with respect to all such summonses [~~or~~],  
10 citations[~~-~~], or outstanding charges, provided that the  
11 registered owner shall not be required to pay the outstanding  
12 charges if:

- 13       (1) The abandoned or derelict vehicle has been stolen or  
14       taken from the registered owner without permission or  
15       authorization; and
- 16       (2) The registered owner has filed a police report  
17       documenting the theft or unauthorized use of the  
18       abandoned or derelict vehicle prior to the issuance of  
19       any charges, fines, or amounts due for the towing,  
20       removal, or disposition of the abandoned or derelict  
21       vehicle.



1       The certificates of registration issued hereunder shall  
2 show, in addition to all information required under section  
3 286-47, the serial number of the tag or emblem and shall be  
4 valid during the registration year only for which they are  
5 issued. The certificates of ownership need not be renewed  
6 annually but shall remain valid as to any interest shown therein  
7 until canceled by the director of finance as provided by law or  
8 replaced by new certificates of ownership as hereinafter  
9 provided."

10       SECTION 3. Section 286-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
11 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

12       "(c) Subsection (b), requiring a transferee to forward the  
13 certificate of ownership after endorsement to the director of  
14 finance, shall not apply to the transferee of a vehicle who was  
15 not intending to and does not drive the vehicle or permit the  
16 vehicle to be driven upon the public highways, but every such  
17 transferee, upon transferring the transferee's interest or title  
18 to another, shall give notice of the transfer to the director of  
19 finance and endorse the certificate of ownership to the new  
20 legal owner and the certificate of registration to the new  
21 owner; provided that if the director of finance has ascertained



1 as of the date of the application that the registered owner has  
2 not deposited or paid bail with respect to any summons or  
3 citation issued to the registered owner for stopping, standing,  
4 or parking in violation of traffic ordinances within the county,  
5 or has outstanding charges owed to the county for the towing,  
6 removal, or disposal of an abandoned or derelict vehicle within  
7 the county, the director may require, as a condition precedent  
8 to the transfer, that the registered owner deposit or pay bail  
9 with respect to all such summons ~~[or]~~, citations~~[-]~~, or  
10 outstanding charges provided that the registered owner shall not  
11 be required to pay the outstanding charges if:

- 12       (1) The abandoned or derelict vehicle has been stolen or  
13       taken from the registered owner without permission or  
14       authorization; and
- 15       (2) The registered owner has filed a police report  
16       documenting the theft or unauthorized use of the  
17       abandoned or derelict vehicle prior to the issuance of  
18       any charges, fines, or amounts due for the towing,  
19       removal, or disposition of the abandoned or derelict  
20       vehicle."



1       SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.  
3       SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2021.



**Report Title:**

Hawaii State Association of Counties Package; Registration of Vehicles; Outstanding Charges

**Description:**

Allows the director of finance of a county to require payment of outstanding charges owed to the county for the towing, removal, or disposal of an abandoned or derelict vehicle within the county before issuing a motor vehicle certificate of registration unless the vehicle was reported as stolen. (SD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

