

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 15 2022

RE: S.B. No. 2158

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and
Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 2158 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE USE OF SIRENS BY EMERGENCY
VEHICLES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to provide
flexibility in the use of sirens by emergency response vehicles in
certain circumstances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the use of sirens by emergency
vehicles can be necessary to alert other vehicles and pedestrians
that the emergency vehicle is exercising its authority to
disregard certain traffic laws, such as proceeding through a red
light or exceeding the posted speed limit. Some emergency
response sectors have determined that there should be flexibility
to not engage the siren in situations where it is unnecessary,
such as responding at night when the streets are empty of cars and
pedestrians. Further, the City and County of Honolulu has
expressed in its ordinances that the siren should be used "as may
be reasonably necessary". Your Committee notes that the
unnecessary use of a siren contributes to noise pollution,
especially in heavily-congested residential areas. This measure
will allow the State to reduce noise pollution by allowing



emergency response vehicles to not use sirens if the siren is not reasonably necessary under the circumstances.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2158 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

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

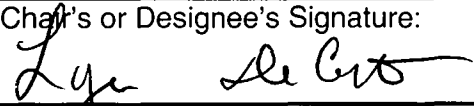
Clarence K. Nishihara

CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-First Legislature
State of Hawai'i

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

Bill / Resolution No.:* <i>SB 2158</i>	Committee Referral: <i>PSM, JDC</i>	Date: <i>2/10/2022</i>		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input 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)	✓			
DECOITE, Lynn (VC)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H.				✓
RIVIERE, Gil				✓
FEVELLA, Kurt		✓		
TOTAL	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>2</i>
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