



The Judiciary, State of Hawai'i

Testimony to the Thirty-First State Legislature, 2021 Regular Session

Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
Representative Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 16, 2021, 2:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 325
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

By:
Mark M. Santoki
Acting Deputy Chief Court Administrator
First Circuit

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Bill No. and Title: House Bill No. 1377, Relating to Citations.

Purpose: Creates an electronic citation program under the judiciary and establishes an electronic citation surcharge.

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary SUPPORTS this measure and provides the following comments.

Currently, the eCitation program is being used by the Maui Police Department and the Honolulu Police Department. The Judiciary has found that eCitations have resolved handwriting legibility issues and eliminated the need to collect and scan paper citations. Although the program has improved case initiation efficiency, the eCitation program is not yet fully integrated with the Judiciary's Information Management System (JIMS).

The Judiciary has the following concerns regarding this legislation. Currently only the 1st and 2nd Circuit traffic divisions are involved with the eCitation pilot program funded by grant funds through the Department of Transportation. Expansion to both the 3rd and 5th Circuit will

likely require additional resources including equipment and personnel. Under the current bill, the Judiciary shall establish a formula to distribute funds to law enforcement agencies. Reoccurring costs to the Judiciary involving the eCitation application will also need to be addressed.

The successful implementation of eCitations statewide will require effective planning, coordination, and communication among the state and county agencies involved. The Judiciary would like to respectfully request that this measure include the establishment of an eCitation task force to address concerns regarding the formula and procedure to distribute funds, to establish metrics for evaluation, the possible expansion beyond traffic citations, law enforcement officer training, and the integration of JIMS with law enforcement computer systems.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

HB-1377

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:53:15 AM

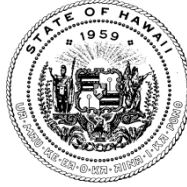
Testimony for JHA on 2/16/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Hankins	Maui Police Department	Support	No

Comments:

Currently MPD and HPD are the only law enforcement agencies involved in a pilot program using electronic citations. The pilot program is 100% federal grant funded , and it is not expected to last forever. We need to move forward with implementing electronic citations statewide across all LE agencies. To do this we need funding to support the program. This bill provides us a financial means to begin gradually expanding the program permanently. The benefits of electronic citations are widespread. Officers can quickly issue citations spending less time roadside. Errors due to legibility are obsolete with electronic citations. Once the citation is issued by the officers, the citation is immediately uploaded to the judiciary for processing saving time and money to handle processing versus manual entry. Citations turned in late by officers are no longer an issue with the electronic citation program, thus less citations will be dismissed due to timeliness. Please support this bill and help Hawaii law enforcement and our state judiciary move forward with the benefits of electronic citations permanently.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



TESTIMONY BY:

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February 16, 2021
2:00 P.M.
State Capitol, Teleconference

H.B. 1377
RELATING TO CITATIONS

House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.B. 1377, which creates an electronic citation program under the Judiciary and establishes an electronic citation surcharge.

The implementation of an electronic, or eCitation, system would help rectify numerous deficiencies with paper citations, such as supervisors, prosecutors and Judiciary personnel having to decipher difficult-to-read handwritten notes, as well as untimely delivery of citations from law enforcement agencies to the Judiciary. These sometimes lead to dismissal of traffic citations and delays in access to citations.

eCitation technology provides numerous benefits to law enforcement, Judiciary and to the general public, including:

- Time savings in scanning driver license and registrations to auto populate eCitations;
- Officer safety as law enforcement officers spend less time on the side of the road writing and issuing the citation;
- Efficiency in citation data entry into law enforcement agencies' Records Management Systems and the Judiciary Information Management System;
- Faster access to citations for violators who need to pay the fines; and
- Analysis of eCitation data (types of violations, geolocations, times of issuance, etc.) that can be used for traffic safety.

We believe that a statewide eCitation system is essential as we move towards streamlining processes and finding more efficient and effective solutions.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



LATE *Testimony submitted late may not be considered by the Committee for decision making purposes.



POLICE DEPARTMENT

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TIVOLI S. FAAUMU
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February 16, 2021

Representative Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair
31st Hawaii State Legislature
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: HOUSE BILL 1377 RELATING TO CITATIONS

Dear Chair Nakashima and Committee Members:

The Maui Police Department SUPPORTS the passage of HB 1377, creating an electronic citation program and establishing a surcharge.

Our department currently uses electronic citations. This technology allows our officers to more efficiently enforce traffic laws by eliminating paper citations and ensure they are submitted to the judiciary in a timely and secure manner.

Creating a statewide program will establish a surcharge that will be distributed to each county to defray expenses and costs related to maintenance of the program.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,


TIVOLI S. FAAUMU
Chief of Police