

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



TESTIMONY BY:
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DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

Deputy Directors
Nā Hope Luna Ho'okele
DREANALEE K. KALILI
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ROBIN K. SHISHIDO

STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 1, 2024
10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 312

H.B. 1578
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

House Committee on Transportation

The Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) **supports** H.B. 1578, which permits a shipping container chassis that holds a valid out-of-state certificate of vehicle registration to obtain a certificate of safety inspection and makes an out-of-state registration for a shipping container chassis valid in the State until its expiration in the other state for one year after a safety inspection.

Shipping container chassis are a critical part in moving container cargo out of ports and to final destinations. Due to the nature of intermodal equipment, shipping container chassis are frequently moved from port to port - and state to state. Most states in the United States recognize the intermodal and interstate nature of shipping container chassis and recognizes out-of-state license plates and registrations.

This bill supports efficient cargo operations, and the efficiency may reduce the costs of transporting goods.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Testimony of Matson Navigation Company, Inc.
Support of HB1578, PROPOSED HD1
Before the Committee on Transportation
February 1, 2024

Dear Chair Todd, Vice Chair Kila, and Members of the Committee:

Matson Navigation Company, Inc. (Matson) strongly supports HB1578, PROPOSED HD1, which allows shipping container chassis with out-of-state certificates of vehicle registration to obtain a certificate of safety inspection and allows for the out-of-state registration to be valid in the State of Hawaii for one year after the vehicle safety inspection is completed.

As an island state, Hawaii is very dependent upon our commercial harbors to ensure the continued and unimpeded flow of cargo in and out of our State. It is estimated that over 90 percent Hawaii's imported goods pass through our commercial harbors, including consumer goods, motor vehicles, construction materials, and fuel. Given the critical role of our commercial harbors, it is imperative that the State support dependable and efficient cargo transportation and handling to service our residents and businesses.

Shipping container chassis (pictured below) are a vital part of the flow of commerce. These chassis ensure that containers and the goods inside can be delivered to our stores. Due to the nature of intermodal equipment, shipping container chassis are frequently moved from port to port. Almost every other state in the United States recognizes the intermodal, interstate nature of shipping container chassis and recognizes out-of-state license plates and registrations. Allowing out-of-state registered shipping container chassis to obtain a safety check in Hawaii will ensure the safety and roadworthiness of shipping container chassis and ensure the safe and efficient flow of commerce through out our State while requiring the shipping container chassis to be registered in Hawaii within a reasonable time.



Thank you for considering our testimony in support.

HAWAII HARBORS USERS GROUP

Testimony of Matson Navigation Company, Inc.

Support of HB1578, PROPOSED HD1

Before the Committee on Transportation

February 1, 2024

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Kila, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Harbor Users Group (HHUG) is a non-profit maritime transportation industry group comprised of key commercial harbor users statewide. Members of HHUG play a vital role in our state's economic development and sustainability, as well as cargo operations and tourism. The safe and efficient operations of Hawaii harbors are critical to connecting Hawaii's most remote and isolated communities to the rest of the state and, indeed, the world.

We are writing in support of HB1578, PROPOSED HD1, which allows shipping container chassis with out-of-state certificates of vehicle registration to obtain a certificate of safety inspection and allows for the out-of-state registration to be valid in the State of Hawaii for one year after the vehicle safety inspection is completed.

We believe that allowing out-of-state registered shipping container chassis to obtain a safety check in Hawaii will ensure the safety and roadworthiness of shipping container chassis and ensure the safe and efficient flow of commerce throughout our State while requiring the shipping container chassis to be registered in Hawaii within a reasonable time.

Hawaii's economy, and virtually every aspect of life in our islands, is dependent upon our commercial harbors to ensure the continued and unimpeded flow of cargo. The vast majority of Hawaii's imported goods pass through our commercial harbors, including consumer goods, motor vehicles, construction materials, and fuel. Given the critical role of our commercial harbors, it is imperative that the state support dependable and efficient cargo transportation and handling to service our residents and businesses.

Thank you for considering our testimony in support of this measure.



WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

February 1, 2024

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Darius K. Kila, Vice Chair
House Committee on Transportation

RE: House Bill 1578 Proposed H.D. 1 – RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION
Hearing date: February 1, 2024, 10:00 a.m.

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Kila, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of Young Brothers, LLC (“YB”) offering **STRONG SUPPORT** for House Bill 1578 Proposed H.D. 1 – Relating to Transportation.

YB is a common carrier by water, transporting property by tug and barge between the islands of O’ahu, Hawai‘i, Kaua‘i, Maui, Moloka‘i, and Lāna‘i. YB is currently the only water carrier authorized to transport property under Chapter 271G, Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”) (i.e., the Hawaii Water Carrier Act), subject to the regulatory authority of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of Hawaii (“PUC”). Since 1900, customers across Hawaii have relied on YB’s frequent, regular, and universal sailings to serve as the bridge that connects all communities in this island-state.

The proposed H.D. 1 for this measure would allow certain shipping container chassis with out-of-state certificates of registration to obtain a local certificate of safety inspection and allows for the out-of-state registration to be valid in the State of Hawaii for one year after the vehicle safety inspection is completed.

Shipping container chassis are frequently used to transport shipping containers into, out of, and around the State of Hawai‘i. Often, these chassis come from and are registered in other states. This measure recognizes the interstate nature of these chassis and establishes reasonable registration requirements that still preserve the safety and roadworthiness of such chassis through the local safety inspection process. Furthermore, it is YB’s understanding that most other states already recognize out-of-state license plates and registrations for such chassis.

For the reasons stated above, YB offers **STRONG SUPPORT** for this measure.

Thank you for your service to the State of Hawaii, and for the opportunity to testify offering comments on this measure.

Sincerely,

Kris Nakagawa
Vice President, External and Legal Affairs



February 1, 2024

TO: HONORABLE CHRIS TODD, CHAIR, HONORABLE DARIUS KILA, VICE CHAIR, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF H.B. 1578, RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.** Permits a shipping container chassis that holds a valid out-of-state certificate of vehicle registration to obtain a certificate of safety inspection. Makes an out-of-state registration for a shipping container chassis valid in the State until its expiration in the other state or for one year after a vehicle safety inspection.

HEARING

DATE: Thursday, February 1, 2024
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
PLACE: Capitol Room 312

Dear Chair Todd, Vice Chair Kila and Members of the Committee,

The General Contractors Association of Hawaii (GCA) is an organization comprised of approximately five hundred (500) general contractors, subcontractors, and construction related firms. The GCA was established in 1932 and is the largest construction association in the State of Hawaii. Our mission is to elevate Hawaii's construction industry and strengthen the foundation of our community.

GCA **supports** H.B. 1578, which a shipping container chassis that holds a valid out-of-state certificate of vehicle registration to obtain a certificate of safety inspection. Makes an out-of-state registration for a shipping container chassis valid in the State until its expiration in the other state or for one year after a vehicle safety inspection.

As an island state, Hawaii is very dependent upon our commercial harbors to ensure the continued and unimpeded flow of cargo in and out of our State. It is estimated that over 90 percent Hawaii's imported goods pass through our commercial harbors, including consumer goods, motor vehicles, construction materials, and fuel. Given the critical role of our commercial harbors, it is imperative that the State support dependable and efficient cargo transportation and handling to service our residents and businesses.

Shipping container chassis (pictured below) are a vital part of the flow of commerce. These chassis ensure that containers and the goods inside can be delivered to our stores. Due to the nature of intermodal equipment, shipping container chassis are frequently moved from port to port. Almost every other state in the United States recognizes the intermodal, interstate nature of shipping container chassis and recognizes out-of-state license plates and registrations. Allowing out-of-state registered shipping container chassis to obtain a safety check in Hawaii will ensure the safety and roadworthiness of shipping container chassis and ensure the safe and efficient flow of commerce throughout our State while requiring the shipping container chassis to be registered in Hawaii within a reasonable time.



**GENERAL
CONTRACTORS
ASSOCIATION
OF HAWAII**



Thank you for considering our testimony in support.

QUALITY PEOPLE. QUALITY PROJECTS



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII

The Voice of Business

Testimony to the House Committee on Transportation February 1, 2024

RE: HB1578, Proposed HD1, Relating to Transportation

Dear Chair Todd, Vice Chair Kila, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii supports HB1578, proposed HD1, which allows shipping container chassis with out-of-state certificates of vehicle registration to obtain a certificate of safety inspection and allows for the out-of-state registration to be valid in the State of Hawaii for one year after the vehicle safety inspection is completed.

As an island state, Hawaii is very dependent upon our commercial harbors to ensure the continued and unimpeded flow of cargo in and out of our State. It is estimated that over 90 percent of Hawaii's imported goods pass through our commercial harbors, including consumer goods, motor vehicles, construction materials, and fuel. Given the critical role of our commercial harbors, it is imperative that the State support dependable and efficient cargo transportation and handling to service our residents and businesses.

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The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 2,000+ businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.