

*The Judiciary, State of Hawai‘i*

**Testimony to the Thirty-Second Legislature  
2023 Regular Session**

**House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs**  
Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair  
Representative Gregg Takayama, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 15, 2023, 2:15 p.m.  
State Capitol  
Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

by:

Mai Nguyen Van  
Acting Director of IT & Business Services

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**Bill No. and Title:** Senate Bill No. 1078, S.D. 1, Relating to Electronic Citations.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this Act is to establish a statewide electronic citation program. The bill appropriates funds.

**Judiciary’s Position:**

The Judiciary SUPPORTS of the intent of this measure, and recognizes the benefits that an electronic citation program offers.

First, we provide background information for the Committee’s awareness. Since 2017, there has been an eCitation pilot project in Honolulu and Maui counties, which has been funded by federal grants from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) via the State Department of Transportation (DOT).

Establishing a way for the court to receive citations electronically reduces the occurrence of errors because driver license and registration are scanned directly into a device used by police officers instead of a paper citation, and the information is populated into the ticket then transmitted to the court. Motorists receive a printed citation that is clear and legible. Motorists may resolve their citations in person at the courthouse or by using the Judiciary’s existing online



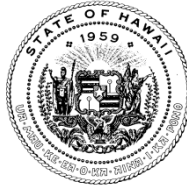
payment system. Replacing manual paper citation handling with an electronic method improves efficiency of delivery of the citation to the Judiciary.

Full integration of electronic citations with the Judiciary Information Management System (JIMS) would further reduce delays in traffic case initiation and a motorist's ability to pay eligible fines/fees online. This integration would be the most critical part of the proposed eCitation program, as it would ensure that the Judiciary could accept and process electronic citations coming from each of the county police departments. This required programming is estimated to be a one-time cost of \$ 370,000.

In addition to the one-time integration cost, the Judiciary would request an annual recurring cost for the licenses of the Judiciary document management system, Filenet, for the TVB staff to validate the documents received from the respective police departments were properly uploaded to the Judiciary system. The cost is estimated to be \$25,000 per year. The Judiciary would also require that each county police department provide the Judiciary access to their respective system to audit the citations and that they will include that cost in their estimates.

Finally, we are grateful for the inclusion of the one (1) permanent Project Specialist position, which will ensure continued support for the eCitation program implementation and integration with each county police department. The Judiciary respectfully requests funding of \$68,556 to support the salary for this position.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



**TESTIMONY BY:**  
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**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
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March 15, 2023  
2:15 P.M.  
State Capitol Rm 325, Teleconference

**S.B. 1078 S.D. 1**  
**RELATING TO ELECTRONIC CITATIONS**

House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** S.B. 1078 S.D.1, which establishes a statewide electronic citation program under the Judiciary and appropriates funds.

The implementation of an electronic, or eCitation, system would help streamline the process, such as allowing supervisors, prosecutors and Judiciary personnel to more easily read typed notes rather than difficult-to-read handwritten notes, as well as transmitting citations more quickly from law enforcement agencies to the Judiciary.

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

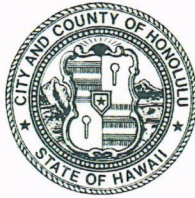
- Time savings and accuracy by scanning driver license and registrations to auto populate eCitations;
- Officer and motorist safety as law enforcement officers spend less time on the side of the road writing and issuing the citation;
- More accurate citation data and less laborious data entry into multiple Records Management Systems;
- Electronic delivery of citations from rural police districts to the courts;
- 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.

The DOT urges your support of S.B. 1078 S.D.1, which will streamline processes, as well as improve roadside safety for law enforcement and roadway users.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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March 15, 2023

The Honorable David A. Tarnas, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Judiciary and  
Hawaiian Affairs  
House of Representatives  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 325  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Tarnas and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 1078, S.D. 1, Relating to Electronic Citations

I am Stason Tanaka, Major of the Traffic Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports Senate Bill No. 1078, S.D. 1, Relating to Electronic Citations.

The HPD supports this bill that would establish a statewide electronic citation program (eCitation), as our eCitation pilot program was a success.

The eCitation pilot program resulted in better data tracking for citations as information is updated live. It also allowed for better tracking of citations given around the island, as well as allowing officers to issue citations more efficiently. However, should the bill pass, it is undetermined who will be responsible to be the lead coordinator.

The Honorable David A. Tarnas, Chair  
and Members  
March 15, 2023  
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The HPD urges you to support Senate Bill No. 1078, S.D. 1, Relating to  
Electronic Citations.


Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Stason Tanaka, Major  
Traffic Division

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Arthur J. Logan  
Chief of Police

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY  
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**THE HONORABLE DAVID A. TARNAS, CHAIR**  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**  
**Thirty-Second State Legislature**  
**Regular Session of 2023**  
**State of Hawai`i**

March 15, 2023

**RE: S.B. 1078 S.D. 1; RELATING TO ELECTRONIC CITATIONS.**

Chair Tarnas, Vice-Chair Takayama and members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, City and County of Honolulu (“Department”), submits the following testimony in **support** of S.B. 1078, S.D. 1 with comments.

The purpose of S.B. 1078, S.D. 1, is to expand the eCitations program statewide—from the current pilot program being run only in Honolulu and Maui—and to provide appropriations for the Judiciary and each county financial support to establish, implement, operate, oversee, repair and maintain the program.

The Department would note, that under the current Department of Transportation grant for the pilot program, our office was able to procure 25 user licenses for one year through the vendor Thin Blue Line Reporting. The Department appreciates this modernization of the traffic citations system and would ask that this committee ensure that any accompanying cost that would be associated with utilizing the system by the various prosecuting attorney offices are sufficiently covered under the Judiciary appropriations in section 3 or the county appropriations in sections 4-7.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu supports the passage of S.B. 1078, S.D. 1 with comments. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.