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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LICENSE PLATES.

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

1           SECTION 1. Section 249-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

3           "(a) The number plates hereinabove referred to shall be  
4 used upon all vehicles for which a tax has been paid pursuant to  
5 sections 249-1 to 249-13. All [~~such~~] number plates shall:

6           (1) [~~Bear~~] If issued before January 1, 2025, bear the word  
7 "Hawaii" along the upper portion of the plate and the  
8 words "Aloha State" along the lower portion of the  
9 plate;

10          (2) If issued on or after January 1, 2025, for affixture  
11 on:

12          (A) A zero-emission vehicle, bear the word "Hawai'i"  
13 along the upper portion of the plate and the  
14 words "Aloha State" along the lower portion of  
15 the plate and contain a colorful design  
16 reflecting the State's unique environment;



1           (B) A hybrid vehicle, bear the word "Hawai'i" along  
 2           the upper portion of the plate and the words  
 3           "hybrid vehicle" on any portion of the plate as  
 4           may be determined by the directors of finance of  
 5           each county through majority consent and use the  
 6           rainbow design featured on number plates, except  
 7           special number plates, issued in the State  
 8           beginning in 1991; and

9           (C) A gasoline-powered vehicle, bear the word  
 10           "Hawai'i" along the upper portion of the plate and  
 11           the words "gas vehicle" on any portion of the  
 12           plate and use the rainbow design featured on  
 13           number plates, except special number plates,  
 14           issued in the State beginning in 1991;

15       ~~[(2)]~~ (3) Have a distinct contrast between the color of the  
 16           plate and the numerals and letters thereon; and

17       ~~[(3)]~~ (4) Be of such shape, size, and color, and with such  
 18           arrangements of letters and numbers as may, subject to  
 19           sections 249-1 to 249-13, be determined by the  
 20           directors of finance of each county through majority  
 21           consent ~~[-]~~ ;



1 provided that effective January 1, 2025, all number plates  
2 issued pursuant to subsection (a)(2) shall bear the word  
3 "Hawai'i" along the upper portion of the plate and the words  
4 "Aloha State" along the lower portion of the plate, and both  
5 "Hawai'i" and "Aloha State" may either contain all uppercase or  
6 lowercase letters or have the first letter of each word be  
7 uppercase.

8       The numerals on all [~~sueh~~] number plates shall be not less  
9 than three inches in height and the strokes thereof not less  
10 than three-eighths inch in width, except in the case of  
11 motorcycles, in which case the numerals shall not be less than  
12 one inch in height and the strokes thereof not less than one-  
13 eighth inch in width.

14       The director of finance of the city and county of Honolulu  
15 shall contract annually on behalf of the counties for the  
16 purchase of all number plates, tags, or emblems required. The  
17 council of each county shall appropriate and cause to be paid  
18 over to the party with whom the director of finance of the city  
19 and county of Honolulu shall contract, or to the director of  
20 finance of the city and county of Honolulu as the director may  
21 direct, [~~sueh~~] the sum or sums as the director of finance of the



1 city and county of Honolulu shall determine to be the county's  
2 proportionate share of the expense of [~~such~~] the contract and  
3 the charges connected therewith. The contract shall be made by  
4 the director of finance of the city and county of Honolulu as  
5 agent of the several counties, and the proportionate liability  
6 of each county shall be stated in the contract. Notwithstanding  
7 any other provision of the law, the contract shall constitute a  
8 valid obligation of each county for its proportionate share."

9 SECTION 2. The directors of finance of each county shall  
10 issue a new series of number plates for any number plates issued  
11 pursuant section 249-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for affixture  
12 to hybrid vehicles pursuant to section 249-9(a)(2)(B), Hawaii  
13 Revised Statutes, or gasoline-powered vehicles pursuant to  
14 section 249-9(a)(2)(C), Hawaii Revised Statutes.

15 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
16 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

17 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 3000.



**Report Title:**

DOT; Number Plates; Zero-Emission Vehicles; Hybrid Vehicles;  
Okina; Gasoline-Powered Vehicles; Rules

**Description:**

Requires license plates to include 'okina in the word "Hawai'i".  
Establishes requirements for number plates issued for zero-  
emission, hybrid, and gasoline-powered vehicles beginning  
1/1/2025. Requires the continued use of the rainbow number  
plate design for hybrid and gasoline-powered vehicles.  
Effective 6/30/3000. (SD1)

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

