



The Judiciary, State of Hawai'i

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

Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts
Senator Chris Lee, Chair
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair

Tuesday, January 31, 2023, 3:00 p.m.
Conference Room 224 & Via Videoconference

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

By:

Michelle D. Acosta
Deputy Chief Court Administrator
District Court of the First Circuit

Bill No. and Title: Senate Bill No. 990, Relating to Traffic Infractions.

Purpose: Establishes a traffic fines task force that will examine the Finnish tiered traffic fines system, determine whether a similar system could be implemented in Hawai'i, and provide recommendations as to how a system could best be implemented. Appropriates funds.

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary takes no position on the intent of the measure. The Judiciary appreciates the opportunity to participate in the task force to determine if a Finnish model could be implemented in Hawai'i.

The Judiciary would note that the day-fine system used by Finland based on disposable income would be complex and would require significant modifications to the current traffic system used by the Judiciary.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Testimony of Matson Navigation Company, Inc.
Comments on SB990
Before the Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts
January 31, 2023

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

Matson Navigation Company, Inc. (Matson) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on SB990, which establishes a task force to examine whether the Finnish tired traffic fines system could be implemented in Hawaii. The Finnish system imposes fines based on the defendant's income, with higher incomes resulting in higher fines.

As an island state, Hawaii is very dependent upon our commercial harbors and commercial truckers 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.

Matson appreciates the intent of this measure. If your Committee passes this measure, Matson respectfully requests that a representative of the commercial shipping industry and a representative of the commercial trucking industry be included on the task force.

Thank you for considering our comments.