



**GOV. MSG. NO. 1161**

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA

June 21, 2024

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate,  
and Members of the Senate  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker, and Members of the  
House of Representatives  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 431  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on June 21, 2024, the following bill was signed into law:

HB1577 HD1 SD2 CD1

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE TOWING  
FEES.  
**ACT 060**

Sincerely,

Josh Green, M.D.  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2024  
STATE OF HAWAII

**H.B. NO.** 1577  
H.D. 1  
S.D. 2  
C.D. 1

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE TOWING FEES.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 290-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

3 "(b) Towing companies engaged by the owner, occupant, or  
4 person in charge of the property shall:

5 (1) Charge not more than [~~\$65~~] \$75 for a tow, or [~~\$75~~] \$85  
6 for a tow using a dolly, plus a mileage charge of  
7 \$7.50 per mile towed and \$25 per day or fraction  
8 thereof for storage for the first seven days and \$20  
9 per day thereafter. In the case of a difficult  
10 hookup, a towing surcharge of \$30 shall apply. When  
11 the tow occurs between the hours of six o'clock p.m.  
12 and six o'clock a.m., from Monday through Thursday and  
13 from six o'clock p.m. Friday to six o'clock a.m.  
14 Monday, the towing company shall be entitled to an  
15 overtime charge of \$15. The charges listed in this  
16 paragraph shall be the only charges tow companies are  
17 authorized to charge vehicle owners[~~-~~]; provided that



1           if the tow involves an overturned vehicle, the towing  
2           company shall be entitled to an additional charge of  
3           no more than \$35. For purposes of this paragraph,  
4           "difficult hookup" shall mean an above or below ground  
5           hookup in a multilevel facility;

6           (2) If the vehicle is in the process of being hooked up,  
7           meaning up to the point when the tow truck is driving  
8           away, and the vehicle owner appears on the scene, the  
9           tow company shall release the vehicle to the vehicle  
10          owner at a location that ensures the safety of all  
11          persons and property involved, regardless of whether  
12          the release occurs on the scene or if the vehicle must  
13          be removed from the scene to be safely released;  
14          provided that no fee will be charged to the vehicle  
15          owner under this paragraph;

16          (3) Determine the name of the legal owner and the last  
17          registered owner of the vehicle from the department of  
18          transportation or the county department of finance.  
19          The legal owner and the last registered owner shall be  
20          notified in writing at the address on record with the  
21          department of transportation or with the county



1 department of finance by registered or certified mail  
2 of the location of the vehicle, together with a  
3 description of the vehicle, within a reasonable period  
4 not to exceed fifteen days following the tow. The  
5 notice shall state:

6 (A) The maximum towing charges and fees allowed by  
7 law;

8 (B) The telephone number of the consumer information  
9 service of the department of commerce and  
10 consumer affairs; and

11 (C) That if the vehicle is not recovered within  
12 thirty days after the mailing of the notice, the  
13 vehicle shall be deemed abandoned and will be  
14 sold or disposed of as junk.

15 Where the legal owner and the last registered owner  
16 have not been notified pursuant to this paragraph, the  
17 vehicle may be recovered by the vehicle owner from the  
18 towing company without paying tow or storage fees.

19 The notice need not be sent to a legal owner or last  
20 registered owner or any person with an unrecorded  
21 interest in the vehicle whose name or address cannot



1 be determined. Absent evidence to the contrary, a  
2 notice shall be deemed received by the legal owner or  
3 last registered owner five days after the mailing;

4 (4) Provide, when a vehicle is recovered by the vehicle  
5 owner the vehicle owner with a receipt stating:

6 (A) The maximum towing charges and fees allowed by  
7 law; and

8 (B) The telephone number of the consumer information  
9 service of the department of commerce and  
10 consumer affairs; and

11 (5) [~~Accommodate~~] Accept payment by the vehicle owner for  
12 charges under paragraph (1) by cash, credit card, [~~or~~]  
13 and debit card[-]; provided that no towing company  
14 shall direct an individual to use an on-site automated  
15 teller machine in lieu of accepting payment by credit  
16 card and debit card."

17 SECTION 2. Section 291C-165.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
18 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

19 "(b) The towing company shall determine the name of the  
20 lien holder and the last registered owner of the vehicle from  
21 the department of transportation or the county department of



1 finance. The lien holder and the registered owner shall be  
2 notified by the towing company in writing at the address on  
3 record with the department of transportation or with the county  
4 department of finance by registered or certified mail of the  
5 location of the vehicle, together with a description of the  
6 vehicle, within a reasonable period not to exceed twenty days  
7 following the tow. The notice shall state:

- 8 (1) The maximum towing charges and fees allowed by law;
- 9 (2) The telephone number of the county finance department  
10 that arranged for or authorized the tow; and
- 11 (3) That if the vehicle is not recovered within thirty  
12 days after the mailing of the notice, the vehicle  
13 shall be deemed abandoned and will be sold or disposed  
14 of as junk.

15 Any towing company engaged in towing pursuant to this section  
16 shall comply with the requirements of section 291C-135. When  
17 the vehicle is recovered after the tow by the last registered  
18 owner or lien holder, the party recovering the vehicle shall pay  
19 the tow and storage charges which shall not exceed the charges  
20 as provided by section 290-11(b) or the rates agreed upon with  
21 the respective counties, whichever is lower, except that tow



1 operators may charge additional reasonable amounts for  
2 excavating vehicles from off-road locations[+] and any  
3 additional amount allowed by section 290-11(b) for overturned  
4 vehicles; provided that if the notice required by this section  
5 was not sent within twenty days after the tow, neither the last  
6 registered owner nor the lien holder shall be required to pay  
7 the tow and storage charges. No notice shall be sent to a legal  
8 or last registered owner or any person with any unrecorded  
9 interest in the vehicle whose name or address cannot be  
10 determined. Any person who violates any provision of this  
11 section shall be deemed to have:

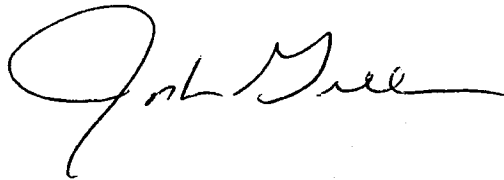
- 12 (1) Engaged in an unfair or deceptive act or practice in  
13 the conduct of any trade or commerce within the  
14 meaning of section 480-2 and subject to the penalties  
15 and remedies of chapter 480; and  
16 (2) Furnished services without a license within the  
17 meaning of section 487-13 and subject to penalties and  
18 remedies under chapter 487."

19 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
20 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

APPROVED this 21st day of June , 2024



GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII





HB No. 1577, HD 1, SD 2, CD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 1, 2024  
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024.



Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker  
House of Representatives




Brian L. Takeshita  
Chief Clerk  
House of Representatives

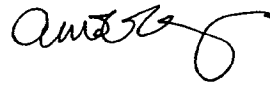
**THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I**

Date: May 1, 2024  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2024.



President of the Senate



Clerk of the Senate