

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 14 , 2024

RE: H.B. No. 2280  
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2024  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Education and Transportation, to which was referred H.B. No. 2280 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STUDENT TRANSPORTATION,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require Department of Education school bus contracts to include provisions that require contractors to prioritize the use of motor vehicles that do not require those drivers to hold a commercial driver's license.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Teachers Association. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committees find that there is a shortage of school bus drivers in Hawaii, contributing to the suspension or cancelation of bus transportation services across the State. Your Committees further find that many school buses transport few students, making standard size school buses unnecessary. Your Committees note that drivers of standard size school buses are required to hold commercial driver's licenses, while those that drive motor vehicles that do not fall within the definition of a commercial motor vehicle, including passenger vans carrying less than sixteen



people, do not. Your Committees believe that requiring Department of Education school bus contracts to include consideration for the use of smaller vehicles for certain routes will alleviate the shortage of school bus drivers and ultimately the lack of student transportation services.

Accordingly, your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Department of Education school bus contracts shall require contractors to consider the use of smaller vehicles that do not require drivers to hold a commercial driver's license for routes with low ridership or specific geographical limitations, as determined by the Department;
- (2) Requiring that the smaller vehicles used by the contractor shall meet all relevant safety standards and the contractor shall ensure the safety and well-being of all passengers;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Education and Transportation that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2280, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2280, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Education and  
Transportation,



CHRIS TODD, Chair



JUSTIN H. WOODSON, Chair



**Record of Votes of the Committee on Education**

Bill/Resolution No.: <b>HB 2280</b>		Committee Referral: <b>EDN/TRN, JHA</b>		Date: <b>2/8/24</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.					
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)					
<b>EDN Members</b>		<b>Ayes</b>	<b>Ayes (WR)</b>	<b>Nays</b>	<b>Excused</b>
1. WOODSON, Justin H. (C)		/			
2. LA CHICA, Trish (VC)		/			
3. KAPELA, Jeanne		/			
4. MARTEN, Lisa		/			
5. MARTINEZ, Rose		/			
6. MATAYOSHI, Scot Z.		/			
7. MIZUNO, May Besario		/			
8. PERRUSO, Amy A.		/			
9. QUINLAN, Sean		/			
10. TODD, Chris		/			
11. GARCIA, Diamond		/			
<b>TOTAL (11)</b>		<b>10</b>			<b>1</b>
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. _____ committee acronym(s)					
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____					
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee      Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office      Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO					

**Record of Votes of the Committee on Transportation**

Bill/Resolution No.: <b>HB2280</b>		Committee Referral: <b>EDN/TRN, JHA</b>		Date: <b>2/8/24</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.					
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)					
	<b>TRN Members</b>	<b>Ayes</b>	<b>Ayes (WR)</b>	<b>Nays</b>	<b>Excused</b>
1.	TODD, Chris (C)	✓			
2.	KILA, Darius K. (VC)	✓			
3.	AIU, Micah P.K.	✓			
4.	EVSLIN, Luke A.	✓			
5.	KITAGAWA, Lisa	✓			
6.	MIYAKE, Tyson K.				✓
7.	ONISHI, Richard H.K.				✓
8.	MATSUMOTO, Lauren				✓
<b>TOTAL (8)</b>		<b>5</b>			<b>3</b>
The recommendation is: <input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted					
If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)					
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:					
<b>Distribution:</b> Original (White) – Committee    Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office    Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO					