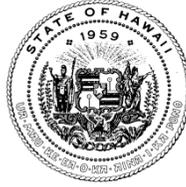


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
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KA LUNA HO'OKELE

Deputy Directors
Nā Hope Luna Ho'okele
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ROBIN K. SHISHIDO

STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 12, 2025
2:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 329

H.B. 226 H.D. 1
RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES

House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

The Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) **supports H.B. 226 H.D. 1**, which prohibits a person from installing, mounting, adhering, affixing, or using any sun screening device in conjunction with the glazing material of a motor vehicle with mirrored, metallic, red, yellow, amber, or blue tint. Requires all drivers and passengers of motor vehicles with applied tint to roll down their windows when stopped by a law enforcement officer at a traffic stop. Lowers the minimum light transmittance levels for sun screening devices on certain motor vehicles. Exempts side windows to the rear of the driver and rear windows on sedans from sun screening device requirements. Increase the minimum and maximum fines for violating sun screening device requirements.

The HDOT supports keeping the 35 percent light transmittance requirement for the front side wing vents and windows and not require sedans to have 35 percent light transmittance for side windows that are to the rear of the driver and rear windows, similar to vans, minivans, trucks, and buses. Additionally, the windows to which the tint has been applied to shall be rolled down when the motor vehicle is stopped by a law enforcement officer at a traffic stop.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

C. Kimo Alameda, Ph.D.
Mayor



Benjamin T. Moszkowicz
Police Chief

William V. Brillhante Jr.
Managing Director

Reed K. Mahuna
Deputy Police Chief

County of Hawai`i

POLICE DEPARTMENT

349 Kapi`olani Street • Hilo, Hawai`i 96720-3998
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February 10, 2025

Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Chair and Members
Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Representative Matayoshi:

RE: HOUSE BILL 226, H.D. 1 RELATING TO WINDSHIELD TINTING
DATE: FEBRUARY 12, 2025
TIME: 2:00 P.M.
PLACE: VIDEOCONFERENCE, CONFERENCE ROOM 329

The Hawaii County Police Department (HPD) strongly believes this Bill presents significant safety concerns for motorists, pedestrians, and law enforcement personnel. HPD **opposes** this proposal because deeply tinted windows can impair a motorist's vision, particularly in low-light conditions such as nighttime driving, inclement weather, and poorly lit roadways. Reduced outward visibility increases the risk of collisions and creates hazards not only for the driver but also for surrounding motorists and pedestrians.

Furthermore, allowing darker window tint presents a serious concern for law enforcement officers conducting traffic stops and other roadside operations. Limited visibility into a vehicle makes it more difficult to assess potential threats, compromising officer safety. It also hinders the ability to properly identify suspects who may attempt to evade law enforcement by fleeing in a vehicle. While this bill includes a requirement for drivers to roll down their windows during law enforcement-initiated stops, this provision does not fully address the core issue. In situations involving inclement weather or driver noncompliance, the risk remains.

Current regulations, which require a minimum of 35% light transmittance, serve an important role in ensuring adequate visibility while balancing the benefits of window tint for glare and heat reduction. Lowering this standard would create unnecessary dangers on our roadways.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the committee to reject House Bill 226, H.D. 1 in the interest of public safety.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. We urge the committee to reconsider or amend this bill to address these concerns.

Respectfully,


BENJAMIN T. MOSZKOWICZ
POLICE CHIEF

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT
KA 'OIHANA MĀKA'I O HONOLULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
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CHIEF
KAHU MĀKA'I

KEITH K. HORIKAWA
RADE K. VANIC
DEPUTY CHIEFS
HOPE LUNA NUI MĀKA'I

OUR REFERENCE ST-JK

February 12, 2025

The Honorable Scot Z. Matayoshi, Chair
and Members
Committee on Consumer Protection
and Commerce
House of Representatives
415 South Beretania Street, Room 329
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Matayoshi and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 226, H.D. 1, Relating to Windshield Tinting

I am Major Stason Tanaka of District 7 (East Honolulu), Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD opposes House Bill No. 226, H.D. 1, Relating to Windshield Tinting. Vehicles with tinted windows pose a safety risk to law enforcement officers as they compromise the officer's ability to see within the vehicle. They can conceal illegal activity that could alert officers as the vehicle approaches or when officers approach the vehicle.

Darker tinted windows can also create hazardous situations by compromising a driver's ability to respond appropriately to road conditions and obstacles, especially in dim lighting or poor weather. They also prevent vital eye contact communication between drivers and pedestrians crossing the street.

The HPD urges you to oppose House Bill No. 226, H.D. 1, Relating to Windshield Tinting.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

Sincerely,


Arthur J. Logan
Chief of Police


Stason Tanaka, Major
District 7

HB-226-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 2:07:26 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/12/2025 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Victor K. Ramos | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

The of the unscientific premise of "climate control" is a false basis for the drafting of this law.

I don't expect our Legislature to actually read real data regarding the climate.