



The Judiciary, State of Hawai'i

Testimony to the Thirty-Third State Legislature, 2025 Regular Session

House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair
Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Tuesday, April 1, 2025, 2:00 p.m.
Conference Room 325 & Via Videoconference

By:

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

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Bill No. and Title: House Concurrent Resolution No.43, HD1

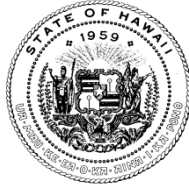
Purpose: REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT TO STUDY THE POSSIBILITY OF A HIGHWAY PATROL AND SPEED CAMERAS ALONG MAJOR FREEWAYS AND HIGHWAYS IN PRIMARY AREAS OF SPEEDING.

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary takes no position on the merits of this resolution. The Judiciary has concerns regarding the expansion of the automated speed enforcement systems and appreciates the amendments made by the Committee on Transportation to include in the study the impact a highway patrol and use-of-speed cameras along major highways would have on the district courts.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



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

April 1, 2025
2:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 325 & Videoconference

H.C.R 43, H.D. 1

**REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AND DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION TO STUDY THE POSSIBILITY OF A HIGHWAY PATROL
AND THE INSTALLATION OF SPEED CAMERAS ALONG MAJOR FREEWAYS AND
HIGHWAYS IN PRIMARY AREAS OF SPEEDING, INCLUDING THE IMPACT IT
WOULD HAVE ON THE DISTRICT COURTS**

House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

The Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) has **comments** for H.C.R. 43, H.D. 1, which requests the HDOT and the Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) to study the possibility of a highway patrol and speed cameras along major freeways and highways in primary areas of speeding.

The HDOT will work with the DLE to determine whether or not a highway patrol and speed cameras along major freeways and highways are possible. Studies have shown that high visibility enforcement does have an impact in reducing undesirable driver behavior. Hawaii's own automated enforcement cameras have shown major reductions in red light violations and believes that the automated speed enforcement will have a similar impact.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



Testimony of the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

**04/01/2025 2:00PM
CR 325 & Videoconference**

HCR43

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT TO STUDY THE POSSIBILITY OF A HIGHWAY PATROL AND SPEED CAMERAS ALONG MAJOR FREEWAYS AND HIGHWAYS IN PRIMARY AREAS OF SPEEDING

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Committee Members,

The Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OahuMPO) **supports HCR43** requesting the Department of Transportation and Department of Law Enforcement to study the possibility of a highway patrol and installation of speed cameras along major freeways and highways in primary areas of speeding, including the impact it would have on the district courts.

This resolution would help us achieve our goal of reducing traffic related deaths and serious injuries to zero by 2045. Traffic fatalities increased ten percent between 2023 and 2024 in Hawaii. In 2024, the State of Hawaii Department of Transportation conducted an annual behavioral study, and nearly one-quarter of respondents admitted to exceeding the speed limit by more than 20 miles per hour, and over half exceeded the speed limit by 10-20 miles per hour in the last six months.

The OahuMPO is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) on the island of Oahu responsible for carrying out a multimodal transportation planning process, including the development of a long-range (25-year horizon) metropolitan transportation plan, referred to as the Oahu Regional Transportation Plan (ORTP), which encourages and promotes a safe, efficient, and resilient transportation system that serves the mobility needs of all people and freight (including walkways, bicycles, and transit), fosters economic growth and development, while minimizing fuel consumption and air pollution ([23 CFR 450.300](#)).

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

HCR-43-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2025 12:41:15 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael A. Cobb Jr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this study and bill. This will create more distractions for drivers who have a hard time focusing on the road. No more photo enforcement.

TO: Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Natalie Iwasa
808-395-3233 (Do not Redact)

HEARING: 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 1, 2025

SUBJECT: Resolution HCR43, HD1, Highway Patrol and Speed Cameras - **OPPOSED**

Aloha Chair Tarnas and Committee Members,

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on Resolution HCR43,HD1, which asks the Departments of Transportation and Law Enforcement to study the possibility of a highway patrol and speed cameras along major freeways and highways in primary areas of speeding.

A state patrol would be redundant, as we already have county police departments. If more enforcement is needed, consider providing additional funds to the counties with the stipulation it be used for traffic enforcement.

And please, no more government-controlled cameras watching members of the public.

Please vote “no” on HCR43, HD1.

HCR-43-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 9:56:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheryl Rzonca	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

There is no need to do a "study". Red light cameras are unconstitutional and it makes no sense to spend our tax dollars to do a study to find out a patrol is needed. This is a ridiculous bill. Vote no on HCR43