

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



GOV. MSG. NO. 1230

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

May 29, 2025

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

The Honorable Nadine Nakamura  
Speaker, and Members of the  
House of Representatives  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 431  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on May 29, 2025, the following bill was signed into law:

S.B. NO. 344, S.D. 1,  
H.D. 2, C.D. 1

RELATING TO HIGHWAY SAFETY.  
**ACT 130**

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Green M.D.".

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

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

RELATING TO HIGHWAY SAFETY.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that skateboard accidents  
2 on roadways and streets can result in serious injury to the  
3 skateboard user, including head trauma. According to an article  
4 published in the *Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery*,  
5 "Injuries to the Head and Face from Skateboarding: A 10-Year  
6 Analysis From National Electronic Injury Surveillance System  
7 Hospitals", from 2009 to 2018, there were an estimated 100,201  
8 emergency room visits nationwide related to trauma to the head  
9 and face while skateboarding. The article concluded that "[a]  
10 substantial number of [emergency department] visits were a  
11 result of skateboarding-related facial trauma. Given the  
12 neurologic outcomes of head trauma and functional consequences  
13 of facial fractures, especially among adolescents, our findings  
14 suggest that injury prevention programs and more aggressive  
15 helmet use may be necessary to reduce morbidity and  
16 hospitalization".



1           The legislature further finds that existing laws in the  
2 State protect bicyclists under the age of sixteen by requiring  
3 operators to wear a helmet. Additionally, the legislature notes  
4 that other states require helmets for minors, including  
5 California, New York, and Oregon. Extension of similar safety  
6 provisions for bicyclists to skateboard riders will provide  
7 additional protection for all roadway users.

8           Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the use  
9 of a safety helmet by anyone under the age of eighteen while  
10 riding a skateboard on public property.

11           SECTION 2. Chapter 291C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
12 amended by adding a new section to part XII to be appropriately  
13 designated and to read as follows:

14           "§291C-       Skateboards; helmet required. (a) No person  
15 under eighteen years of age shall operate a skateboard upon a  
16 street, roadway, or bikeway, or any other public property,  
17 unless the person is wearing a properly fitted and fastened  
18 helmet that:

19           (1) Is designed to fit the user;

20           (2) Is designed to protect against head trauma; and



1       (3) Has been tested by a nationally recognized agency,  
2       such as the National Highway Traffic Safety  
3       Administration, National Safety Council, or Children's  
4       Safety Network.

5       (b) This section shall not be construed to legalize the  
6       use of skateboards in violation of any county ordinance.

7       (c) For the purposes of this section, "skateboard" means a  
8       short board that is on wheels that a person stands on to move  
9       along a surface or to perform tricks."

10       SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

11       SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



S.B. NO. 344  
S.D. 1  
H.D. 2  
C.D. 1

APPROVED this 29th day of May, 2025



GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

**THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I**

Date: April 30, 2025  
Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai‘i, Regular Session of 2025.

  
President of the Senate

  
Clerk of the Senate

SB No. 344, SD 1, HD 2, CD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: April 30, 2025  
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025.



Nadine K. Nakamura  
Speaker  
House of Representatives



Brian L. Takeshita  
Chief Clerk  
House of Representatives