

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



GOV. MSG. NO. 1399

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

July 3, 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:

I am transmitting herewith H.B. 235 without my approval and with the statement of objections relating to the measure.

H.B. 235 RELATING TO TRAFFIC SAFETY.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Green".

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

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

July 3, 2025

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 235

Honorable Members
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i, I am returning herewith, without my approval, House Bill No. 235, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to Traffic Safety."

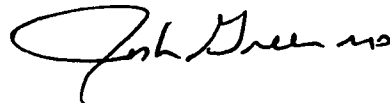
The purpose of this bill is to improve traffic and pedestrian safety along the North Shore of Oahu. To achieve this, the bill requires the Department of Transportation to expand the use of photo red light imaging detector systems and automated speed enforcement systems to locations on the North Shore, following public education efforts by the City and County of Honolulu about the traffic enforcement systems.

This bill is objectionable because by selecting unidentified locations on the North Shore of Oahu for expansion of the use of photo red light imaging detector systems and automated speed enforcement systems, the bill ignores that the Department of Transportation (DOT) has established a statewide methodology for selecting the communities and expansion areas within which to implement these types of traffic safety systems. The criteria in the DOT's methodology include the number of crashes caused by drivers who disregarded traffic signals, volume of traffic, and traffic citations for disregarding signals. The DOT stresses the importance of consistency when selecting a location for implementation of the traffic safety systems. DOT's methodology ensures communities are chosen based on need and potential for greatest impact. Disregarding the DOT's criteria for location selection threatens the integrity of the photo red light imaging detector system and automated speed enforcement system programs.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS
HOUSE BILL NO. 235
Page 2

For the foregoing reasons, I am returning House Bill No. 235 without my approval.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Green", with a stylized flourish at the end.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor of Hawai'i

VETO

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2025
STATE OF HAWAII

H.B. NO. 235
H.D. 1
S.D. 1
C.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TRAFFIC SAFETY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that traffic safety is a
2 significant and growing concern across the State. The North
3 Shore of Oahu, particularly Kamehameha highway, has long been
4 recognized as a high-risk corridor for collisions involving
5 pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers. The legislature further
6 finds that the use of photo red light imaging detector systems
7 and automated speed enforcement systems has demonstrated success
8 in improving safety outcomes. Additionally, the safe routes to
9 school advisory committee plays a key role in addressing school-
10 adjacent infrastructure needs to protect keiki and their
11 families.

12 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to improve traffic
13 and pedestrian safety along the North Shore of Oahu by:

14 (1) Requiring the department of transportation, after the
15 city and county of Honolulu educates the public and
16 expands its systems, to broaden implementation of the



1 automated traffic enforcement systems to locations in
2 the North Shore of Oahu; and

3 (2) Authorizing the safe routes to school advisory
4 committee to prioritize infrastructure safety projects
5 at schools adjacent to Kamehameha highway.

6 SECTION 2. (a) Notwithstanding section 291J-3, Hawaii
7 Revised Statutes, the department of transportation shall expand
8 the use of photo red light imaging detector systems, pursuant to
9 chapter 291J, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and automated speed
10 enforcement systems, pursuant to chapter 291L, Hawaii Revised
11 Statutes, to locations on the North Shore of Oahu.

12 (b) Before expanding the use of photo red light imaging
13 detector systems and automated speed enforcement systems to
14 locations on the North Shore of Oahu pursuant to subsection (a),
15 the city and county of Honolulu shall educate the public and
16 adjust any systems necessary to carry out the purposes of this
17 Act.

18 (c) The department of transportation may seek input from
19 the judiciary and the surrounding community when selecting
20 locations for implementation.



1 (d) The department of transportation shall submit a report
2 about its progress in implementing subsection (a) to the
3 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
4 the regular session of 2026.

5 SECTION 3. The safe routes to school advisory committee
6 may work with appropriate stakeholders to develop and prioritize
7 up to three safe routes to school projects serving schools
8 directly adjacent to Kamehameha highway.

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



H.B. NO. 235
H.D. 1
S.D. 1
C.D. 1

APPROVED this day of , 2025

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

HB No. 235, HD 1, SD 1, CD 1

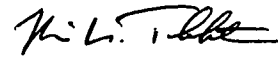
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

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



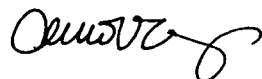
Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives

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