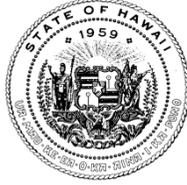


JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



EDWIN H. SNIFFEN  
DIRECTOR  
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

Deputy Directors  
Nā Hope Luna Ho'okele  
DREANALEE K. KALILI  
TAMMY L. LEE  
CURT T. OTAGURO  
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 21, 2025  
12:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 308

**H.B. 228, H.D. 1**  
**RELATING TO LICENSE PLATES**

House Committee on Finance

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The Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) **supports H.B. 228, H.D. 1**, which authorizes the counties to adopt rules for the use of electronic license plates. Prohibits the use of license plate flipping devices and intentionally obscuring a license plate with a cover or shield and establishes fines.

The HDOT supports this measure to prohibit the use of license plate flipping devices and license plate covers as these will impact the automated enforcement program.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES  
KA 'OIHANA LAWELawe KUPA  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

ADMINISTRATION

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
HOPE PO'O

February 20, 2025

The Honorable Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair  
The Honorable Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair  
and Members of the House Committee on Finance  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the House Committee on Finance,

SUBJECT: H.B. No. 228, H.D. 1 - Relating To License Plates  
HEARING: Friday, February 21, 2025, 12:00 p.m.

The City and County of Honolulu, Department of Customer Services (CSD), Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV), respectfully offers comments to H.B. No. 228, H.D. 1, Relating to License Plates. CSD DMV appreciates the intent of the proposed legislation and the opportunity to offer the following comments for your committee's consideration.

Section 1 of the bill proposes to allow the counties to adopt rules authorizing the use of an electronic license plate in lieu of one or both physical license plates currently issued in the City and County of Honolulu by CSD DMV. While the CSD DMV appreciates the intent to allow each county to adopt rules relating to electronic license plates, if the CSD DMV is delegated administrative rulemaking authority, CSD DMV will require adequate time to research and consider implementation requirements in order to proceed to promulgate such administrative rules. CSD DMV would not be prepared to immediately implement the usage of electronic license plates in the City and County of Honolulu. Therefore, CSD DMV appreciates the ability to promulgate administrative rules and implement the usage of electronic license plates in a manner and time to be determined by DMV's discretion.

Testimony for H.B. No. 228, H.D. 1  
February 20, 2025  
Page 2

Sections 2 and 3 of the bill propose to prohibit the operation of a motor vehicle with a license plate flipping device and to prohibit intentionally obscuring a vehicle's license plate through the use of a cover or shield. The DMV appreciates the intent of the proposed legislation and supports the proposed sections regarding the prohibition of license plate flipping devices and prohibition of intentional obscuring of a vehicle's license plate.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on H.B. No. 228, H.D. 1.

Sincerely,

Kimberly M. Hashiro  
Director Designate

**HB-228-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2025 2:13:49 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2025 12:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
kelvin kohatsu	Hawaii Transportation Association	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii Transportation Association supports HB228 HD1

Thank you,

**HB-228-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/19/2025 8:59:38 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2025 12:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this measure and the associated photo enforcement methods. I am sure state and city vehicles are exempt, either in the law or by selective enforcement practice. Those that choose to hide their plates will have the same protection.

**HB-228-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2025 3:07:50 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2025 12:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Richard Collins	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass this important legislation. Mahalo!

**HB-228-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2025 4:04:24 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2025 12:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Heide Kila	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Heide Kila

Waianae Hi 96792

I Heide Kila Support this Bill. It just another way to avoid consequences for not following the Laws.

what's right is right.

what's wrong is wrong.

Mahalo

Heide Kila

Owner Papa Lauluz LLC

**HB-228-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2025 9:14:03 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2025 12:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Valerie Weiss	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong support of this bill. There are license plates all over that have covers to obscure their license numbers. I see them on the road while driving. I see them in the neighborhood while walking. Nothing is ever done. There is no legit reason for anyone to obscure their license number.