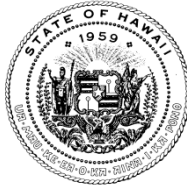


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU
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February 24, 2026
2:00 PM
State Capitol, 325

HB1915, HD1
RELATING TO INJURIOUS MATERIALS

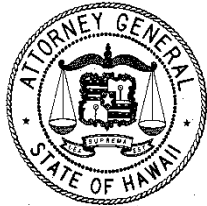
House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

The Department of Transportation (DOT) is in support of HB1915, HD1, which prohibits placing, dropping, or leaving injurious materials on highways, lanes, roads, streets, and alleys on the island of Oahu. This bill addresses a critical safety concern for all road users, including motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians. The placement of injurious materials such as nails, screws, and glass on public roadways poses significant risks of accidents, injuries, and property damage. By establishing clear prohibitions and penalties for such actions, this legislation will enhance road safety and protect the integrity of our transportation infrastructure.

The DOT recognizes the importance of maintaining safe and hazard-free roadways for all users. The proposed penalties, which escalate based on prior convictions and intent, provide an appropriate deterrent against such dangerous behavior. This graduated approach to enforcement aligns with our department's commitment to promoting responsible road use while addressing repeat offenders more severely.

Furthermore, this bill will support our ongoing efforts to reduce road maintenance costs and improve the longevity of our highway systems. Injurious materials left on roadways can cause damage to vehicle tires and potentially lead to accidents, which in turn may damage road surfaces and safety features. By deterring such actions, we can better allocate our resources towards planned maintenance and improvement projects. The DOT believes that House Bill 1915 will significantly contribute to the overall safety and efficiency of our transportation network on Oahu. We are committed to working with law enforcement agencies and other stakeholders to ensure effective implementation of these provisions if the bill is passed.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2026**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 1915, H.D. 1, RELATING TO INJURIOUS MATERIALS.

BEFORE THE:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

DATE: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 **TIME:** 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 325

TESTIFIER(S): Anne E. Lopez, Attorney General, or
Ryan W. Roylo, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Tarnas and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following comments on this bill.

This bill places duties on individuals who place, drop, or leave certain objects on a highway, lane, road, street, or alley dangerous materials such as glass, bottles, tacks, nails, or other articles that may damage or injure a person to "immediately remove" the materials and creates violations or misdemeanors for violating the provisions of the new section, subject to an exception for governmentally authorized activities.

The Department notes that this bill could create substantial public-safety concerns, as it places a legal duty on individuals to immediately pick up or potentially clean up items such as broken glass from a road, irrespective of the size or the volume of traffic on the road or highway, with the possibility of criminal penalties attached for noncompliance, and irrespective of the intent of the person who dropped the item. This legal duty may place both the individual subject to the duty and vehicles on the road in harm's way.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB-1915-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2026 3:04:24 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Palehua Townhouse Association	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Our association supports HB1915. Residents in our association, including myself, have had screws or nails in their tires. The Goodyear store in Kapolei had a jar full of screws that had been in tires.

Please pass this bill.

Mike Golojuch, Sr., President

HB-1915-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2026 6:51:22 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Johnnie-Mae L. Perry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry, Support the intent of 1915 HB RELATING TO INJURIOUS MATERIALS.

Law enforcement to a arrest?

HB-1915-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2026 9:52:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/24/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jimmy Lew	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing in strong support of HB1915.

This bill is an important step toward improving public safety by increasing penalties for individuals who intentionally throw sharp objects onto roadways. Such actions create serious risks for drivers, passengers, cyclists, and pedestrians, and can result in significant financial loss and potential loss of life.

According to HPD Case #25044404-001, on February 3, 2025, Mr. George Sado was arrested after being found with 197 screws in his truck and along the roadway where he had been driving. For approximately three to four years, he repeatedly threw sharp objects, including screws and nails, onto public roads without regard for the safety of the community. On October 25, 2025, Mr. Sado pleaded guilty and received a sentence of 75 hours of community service and a \$1,000 fine.

The scale of potential harm from this conduct is deeply concerning. If 197 sharp objects were placed on roadways weekly over three to four years, tens of thousands of tires may have been damaged. Beyond the financial burden of tire repairs and replacements, the real danger lies in the possibility of high-speed blowouts, loss of vehicle control, serious injuries, or fatalities.

HB1915 would send a clear message that intentionally endangering the public in this manner is not a minor offense. Stronger penalties are necessary to deter this type of reckless and dangerous behavior and to better protect our communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this important measure.

Respectfully submitted,

Jimmy Lew

808-460-0458

