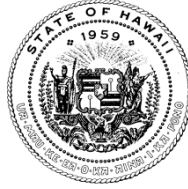


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN
DEREK J. CHOW
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

LATE

February 5, 2020
10:15 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 423

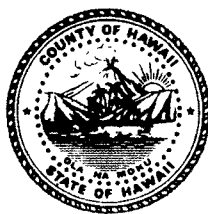
H. B. 2598
RELATING TO ABANDONED AND DERELICT VEHICLES

House Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation **supports** H.B. 2598 which establishes the abandoned and derelict vehicles task force to make recommendations to ensure the proper identification and disposal of abandoned and derelict vehicle left of the State's highways.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Harry Kim
Mayor



Roy Takemoto
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawaii Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553
KONA: 74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Hwy., Bldg C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740
(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

February 4, 2020

Representative Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
Representative Troy Hashimoto, Vice Chair
Committee on Transportation
Hawai'i State Legislature

Dear Chair Aquino, Vice-Chair Hashimoto, and Committee members:

RE: HB 2556 Relating to Vehicles
HB 2598 Relating to Abandoned and Derelict Vehicles

On today's agenda there are two bills dealing with abandoned vehicles. I thank the Legislature for continuing to try to solve this perennial problem.

HB 2556 would make abandonment of a vehicle a misdemeanor, and would give our Finance Director some power to withhold an offender's future car registrations and/or temporarily suspend the person's license. This would obviously only apply in those limited cases where the wrongdoer can be identified, and I would be concerned that the wrong owner may get penalized (for example, if a person sells his/her car but the buyer never registers it, the seller would be on the hook for the fees). On the other hand, the bill might serve to discourage the bad conduct of someone who is thinking about abandoning a vehicle.

I defer to the Committee on this one.

HB 2598 would set up a Task Force to make recommendations. Since this problem is one of long standing, and seems to affect every jurisdiction, maybe bringing people together will result in some practical solutions. The bill calls for involvement of the police departments, which is good; perhaps it should also include the county departments which deal with the actual disposal of the vehicles, such as the Hawai'i County Department of Environmental Management. Either way, I support HB 2598.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harry Kim
MAYOR

HB-2598

Submitted on: 2/3/2020 12:11:32 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/5/2020 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ruston Utu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill. This is a problem in many neighborhoods and regardless of the complaints the cars are still not moved. It is already a problem when you're fighting for street parking and seeing an abandoned car in a possible parking spot makes it even more frustrating.