

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 20 2007

RE: H.B. No. 714  
H.D. 2  
S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2007  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committees on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs and Transportation and International Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 714, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EMERGENCY VEHICLES,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to increase effective enforcement of the laws and rules that protect and conserve the State's natural resources by designating Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement vehicles as authorized emergency vehicles.

Specifically, this measure:

- (1) Amends section 291-31.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to allow Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement vehicles to operate, affix, display, or possess a lamp, reflector, or illumination device that appears to be the color blue and red; and
- (2) Amends section 291C-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to include vehicles authorized pursuant to section 291-31.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, under the definition for "authorized emergency vehicle".

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the Department of Land and Natural Resources; the Honolulu Police



Department, City and County of Honolulu; the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; the Nature Conservancy; and four individuals.

The Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement officers need the proper equipment to allow them to more effectively enforce the laws and rules that protect and conserve the State's natural resources. Testimony submitted to your Committees indicated that there have been numerous situations where Division Enforcement officers have been involved in risky or dangerous circumstances while investigating possible violations of or enforcing conservation laws and rules.

Your Committees find that blue and red lights affixed to Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement vehicles act as a deterrent when used during conspicuous patrols in state parks, hunting areas, forests, harbors, coastal areas, and other public recreational areas. Blue and red lights are immediately identifiable as a color of authority, particularly during the night or during adverse weather conditions, and can enhance the Division's ability to respond to natural or manmade disasters, search and rescue, and wild land fires.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Adopting language similar to the language in S.B. No. 768, S.D. 1, by deleting the language under section 1 and replacing it with language that creates a new section under chapter 291, Hawaii Revised Statutes, which allows only the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement to affix and display a lamp, reflector, or illumination device that appears to be the colors blue and red;
- (2) Deleting the reference to section 291-31.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, under the definition for "authorized emergency vehicle" contained in section 291C-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and replacing it with a reference to the new section under chapter 291, Hawaii Revised Statutes, in section 1 of this measure; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of style and consistency.



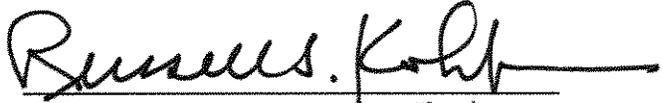
Your Committees believe that this measure, as amended, fulfills the intent of this measure, which is to increase effective enforcement of the laws and rules that protect and conserve the State's natural resources.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs and Transportation and International Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 714, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 714, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committees on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs and Transportation and International Affairs,



J. KALANI ENGLISH, Chair



RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN, Chair



The Senate  
Twenty-Fourth Legislature  
State of Hawaii

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs**  
**WAH**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 714 HD2	WAH / TIA	3/12/07		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KOKUBUN, Russell S. (C)	X			
TOKUDA, Jill N. (VC)	X			
FUKUNAGA, Carol	X			
HEE, Clayton				X
SLOM, Sam	X			
<b>TOTAL</b>	4	Ø	Ø	1
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
Distribution:				
Original	Yellow	Pink		
File with Committee Report	Clerk's Office	Drafting Agency		

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes

