

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 344

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 19 2015

RE: S.B. No. 551

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2015  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committees on Transportation and Public Safety,  
Intergovernmental and Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B.  
No. 551 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HELMETS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require all  
minors under the age of eighteen years to wear a safety helmet  
while operating or riding as a passenger on a motorcycle, all-  
terrain vehicle, and any other off-road vehicle.

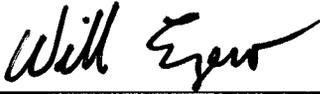
Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Department of Transportation; Honolulu Police Department;  
The Queen's Health Systems; State Highway Safety Council; Mothers  
Against Drunk Driving Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committees  
received testimony in opposition to this measure from one  
individual.

Your Committees find that if higher rates of individuals wore  
helmets, there would be very positive safety outcomes. According  
to testimony, a number of rigorous studies have shown that states  
with high rates of helmet use have lower rates of head injury than  
states with low helmet use. In addition, studies have shown that  
when states repeal helmet laws a dramatic rise in loss of life  
from head injuries among motorcyclists ensues. The requirement of  
helmets by minors is particularly important where minors are  
operators or passengers on motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, and  
other off-road vehicles.



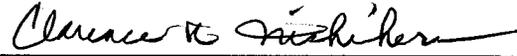
As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Transportation and Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 551 and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Labor.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Transportation  
and Public Safety,  
Intergovernmental and Military  
Affairs,



---

WILL ESPERO, Chair



---

CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Eighth Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Transportation**  
**TRA**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 551</b>	Committee Referral: <b>TRA/PSM, JDL</b>	Date: <b>2/12/15</b>
--	--	-------------------------

The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.  
 If so, then the previous decision was to: \_\_\_\_\_

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312     Pass, with amendments 2311     Hold 2310     Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (C)	✓			
HARIMOTO, Breene (VC)	✓			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	✓			
ESPERO, Will	✓			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	✓			
KIDANI, Michelle N.				✓
KOUCHI, Ronald D.		✓		
SLOM, Sam				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>2</b>

Recommendation:  Adopted     Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:  
*Breene Harimoto*

Distribution:    Original    Yellow    Pink    Goldenrod  
 File with Committee Report    Clerk's Office    Drafting Agency    Committee File Copy

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes

