
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE WEIGHT TAX.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Hawaii Revised
2 Statutes imposes a state motor vehicle weight tax for various
3 types of vehicles and authorizes the counties to impose their
4 own motor vehicle weight tax.

5 The legislature finds that residents with a disability who
6 purchase or retrofit a noncommercial motor vehicle with a lift
7 or ramp designed to provide ingress and egress in the vehicle by
8 the person with disability pay more in state and county motor
9 vehicle weight taxes in comparison to residents with non-
10 modified vehicles. The extra weight of the vehicle is due to
11 the lifts and ramps, any required motors, and additional
12 reinforcement of the vehicle chassis.

13 The purpose of this Act is to exempt the weight of any
14 lifts or ramps installed to assist a person with a disability on
15 a noncommercial motor vehicle for purposes of computing annual
16 state and county motor vehicle weight taxes.



1 SECTION 2. Section 249-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended as follows:

3 1. By adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted
4 and to read:

5 "Noncommercial motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle or
6 combination of motor vehicles not defined by the term
7 "commercial motor vehicle" under section 286-2."

8 2. By amending the definition of "net weight" to read:

9 "Net weight" of a vehicle means the actual weight of the
10 vehicle, as determined on a standard scale, including all
11 equipment and accessories ordinarily attached to and used on the
12 vehicle and, in the case of a motor vehicle, the maximum fuel,
13 oil, and water possible of being carried for its operation;
14 provided that "net weight" of a new standard equipped vehicle,
15 other than a motor vehicle, means the shipping weight thereof as
16 established by its manufacturer, and "net weight" of a new
17 standard equipped passenger vehicle means the shipping weight
18 thereof as established by its manufacturer, plus one hundred
19 pounds, and "net weight" of a new standard equipped motorcycle,
20 motor scooter, or moped, means the shipping weight thereof as
21 established by its manufacturer, plus thirty pounds, and "net



1 weight" of a new standard equipped truck means the shipping
2 weight thereof as established by its manufacturer, plus two
3 hundred pounds. On initial registration of a standard equipped
4 vehicle, other than a motor vehicle, for which the director of
5 finance has the manufacturer's established weight, the director
6 of finance, in lieu of requiring the vehicle to be weighed and
7 in order to determine the "net weight" thereof, may use such
8 established weight and may require the owner to furnish
9 verification of the factory serial number of the vehicle. On
10 initial registration of standard equipped passenger vehicles,
11 motorcycles, motor scooters, mopeds, and trucks for which the
12 director of finance has the manufacturer's established weights,
13 the director of finance, in lieu of requiring such motor
14 vehicles to be weighed and in order to determine the "net
15 weight" thereof, may use such established weights, adding one
16 hundred pounds in the case of standard equipped passenger
17 vehicles, thirty pounds in the case of standard equipped
18 motorcycles, motor scooters, and mopeds, and two hundred pounds
19 in the case of standard equipped trucks, and may require the
20 owners to furnish verification of factory serial and engine
21 numbers of such motor vehicles. As to a vehicle for which the



1 manufacturer's weight is not available or whose make and model
2 cannot be determined with reasonable certainty or which has been
3 so altered as to increase or diminish the weight thereof, "net
4 weight" means the actual weight of such vehicle, as determined
5 on a standard scale, including all equipment and accessories
6 ordinarily attached to and used on the vehicle and, in the case
7 of a motor vehicle, the maximum fuel, oil, and water possible of
8 being carried for its operation. For all noncommercial motor
9 vehicles, the weight of any vehicle modifications made to assist
10 a person with a disability to enter or exit the vehicle
11 including but not limited to lifts, ramps, motors to power lifts
12 or ramps, and chassis reinforcements, shall be excluded from the
13 determination of the vehicle's net weight. In all cases
14 information shall be presented to and in the manner prescribed
15 by the director of finance."

16 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

17 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Motor Vehicle Weight Tax; Exemption for Lifts and Ramps

Description:

Excludes the weight of lifts and ramps, motors to operate them, and vehicle chassis reinforcements added to assist a person with a disability, from the determination of net weight of noncommercial motor vehicles for purposes of levying the state and county motor vehicle weight tax. Defines noncommercial motor vehicle. (HB2232 HD1)

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