
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TAXATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that traffic congestion
2 is a serious problem that negatively affects the quality of life
3 for residents and visitors in Hawaii. Congestion on the State's
4 roadways continues to increase, forcing people to spend more
5 time sitting in vehicles and less time being productive at work
6 or with families and friends.

7 The legislature also finds that visitors make up a large
8 proportion of public highway users and that counties have been
9 impacted differently by the level of visitors. For example,
10 Maui county has the highest number of motor vehicle rentals on a
11 per capita basis. This places a greater strain on Maui roads
12 and further increases roadway congestion.

13 The legislature believes that it is prudent to target a
14 specific group of highway users to raise revenue for necessary
15 capital improvements to some of Hawaii's highways, which will
16 relieve congestion and improve the quality of life for both
17 residents and visitors.



1 The purpose of this Act is to increase the rental motor
2 vehicle surcharge tax in counties experiencing a high number of
3 motor vehicle rentals and to use that revenue to fund projects
4 in those counties to increase highway capacity and relieve
5 traffic congestion.

6 SECTION 2. Section 251-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

8 "(a) There is levied and shall be assessed and collected
9 each month a rental motor vehicle surcharge tax of \$5 a day, or
10 any portion of a day that a rental motor vehicle is rented or
11 leased[-]; provided that in any county with a resident
12 population of more than 125,000, but less than 195,000, the
13 rental motor vehicle surcharge tax shall be \$8 a day, or any
14 portion of a day that a rental motor vehicle is rented or
15 leased. The rental motor vehicle surcharge tax shall be levied
16 upon the lessor; provided that the tax shall not be levied on
17 the lessor if:

18 (1) The lessor is renting the vehicle to replace a vehicle
19 of the lessee that is being repaired; and

20 (2) A record of the repair order for the vehicle is
21 retained either by the lessor for two years for



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1 verification purposes or by a motor vehicle repair
2 dealer for two years as provided in section 437B-16.

3 In addition to the requirements imposed by section 251-4, a
4 lessor shall disclose, to the department, the portion of the
5 remittance attributed to the county in which the motor vehicle
6 was operated under rental or lease.

7 In any county with a resident population of more than
8 125,000, but less than 195,000, \$3 of every \$8 collected
9 pursuant to this subsection for the use of any rental motor
10 vehicle in that county shall be deposited into that county's
11 subaccount within the state highway fund established pursuant to
12 section 248-9(c)."

13 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
14 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2023.

16

INTRODUCED BY: _____



JAN 22 2021



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Report Title:

Rental Motor Vehicle Surcharge Tax; Increase

Description:

Increases the amount of the rental motor vehicle surcharge tax from \$5 to \$8 for any county with a resident population of more than 125,000, but less than 195,000. Sets aside the revenue from the increased surcharge tax for capacity projects in that county. Effective 1/1/2023.

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