

Honolulu, Hawaii

## APR 0 6 2021

RE: H.B. No. 631 H.D. 1 S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate Thirty-First State Legislature Regular Session of 2021 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 631, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL HARDSHIP,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure to is to accommodate within the justice system certain traffic violators who are facing financial hardship.

More specifically, the measure:

- Authorizes courts to adjust, based on a person's ability to pay, the amount owed or installments to be paid by a person who violates certain traffic offenses;
- (2) Amends the ratio of imprisonment term to contumacious nonpayment, from a maximum of one day for each \$25 of a fee or fine, to a maximum of one day for each \$250 of a fee or fine; and
- (3) Increases the amount of credit given to a person committed for contumacious nonpayment, from \$25 per day to \$250 per day.



STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1529 Page 2

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender, Neighborhood Place of Puna, Community Alliance on Prisons, and three individuals.

Your Committee received written comments on this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that the Financial Hardship Task Force, among other matters, made several recommendations for improving the processing of certain traffic offense to address individuals facing financial hardship. Your Committee notes that this measure implements a number of the recommendations made by the task force.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 631, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

> Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Ways and Means

DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair

HB631 SD1 SSCR LRB 21-1714.doc 

## The Senate Thirty-First Legislature State of Hawaiʻi

## Record of Votes Committee on Ways and Means WAM

| Bill / Resolution No.:*  | Committee Referral: |       | Dat   | Date: |         |
|--|---------------------|-------|---|-------|---------|
| HB 631, HD1, SD 1  | JDC                 | , wam |   | 4/1/2 | .1      |
| The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.      |                     |       |   |       |         |
| If so, then the previous decision was to:                                  |                     |       |   |       |         |
| The Recommendation is:   |                     |       |   |       |         |
| Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit<br>2312 2311 2310 2313 |                     |       |   |       |         |
| Members  |                     | Aye   | Aye (WR)  | Nay   | Excused |
| DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)  |                     | Х     |   |       |         |
| KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (VC)  |                     | X     |   |       |         |
| ENGLISH, J. Kalani   |                     | X     |   |       |         |
| INOUYE, Lorraine R.  |                     | Х     |   |       |         |
| KANUHA, Dru Mamo   |                     | X     |   |       |         |
| KIDANI, Michelle N.  |                     | X     |   |       |         |
| MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.  |                     | X     |   |       |         |
| SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.  |                     | X     |   |       |         |
| TANIGUCHI, Brian T.  |                     | X     |   |       |         |
| WAKAI, Glenn   |                     | X     |   |       |         |
| FEVELLA, Kurt  |                     | X     |   |       |         |
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| TOTAL  |                     | 11    |   |       |         |
| Recommendation: X Adopted Not Adopted                                      |                     |       |   |       |         |
| Chair's or Designee's Signature:   |                     |       |   |       |         |
| XODAC AM AR  |                     |       |   |       |         |
| Distribution: Original Yellow<br>File with Committee Report Clerk's Office |                     |       | Pink Goldenrod<br>Drafting Agency Committee File Copy |       |         |

\*Only <u>one</u> measure per Record of Votes