



**TESTIMONY OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE, 2022**

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**ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:**

H.B. NO. 893, RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICLES.

**BEFORE THE:**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 **TIME:** 2:00 p.m.

**LOCATION:** State Capitol, Room 325, Via Videoconference

**TESTIFIER(S):** Holly T. Shikada, Attorney General, or  
Lance Goto, Deputy Attorney General

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Chair Nakashima and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General (Department) supports this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to authorize the Department to operate motor vehicles equipped with blue colored or blue and red colored lights, which is consistent with their law enforcement function and ensures the public recognizes their vehicles as emergency law enforcement vehicles.

Pursuant to chapter 28, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Attorney General is tasked with detecting and prosecuting offenders against the laws of the State. Department investigators have all the powers and authority of a police officer or a deputy sheriff, and they often take the lead in investigating crimes and responding to emergencies in both an emergency responder and law enforcement capacity. Despite the law enforcement responsibility and authority, the Department investigators – unlike other state law enforcement officers – do not have the statutory authority to use law enforcement vehicles with emergency response lights.

This bill will provide the Department with emergency vehicle capability, similar to that which has already been granted to the county police, the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Land and Natural Resources, and the Department of Transportation, Harbors Division. It will allow the public to easily identify the presence and authority of the Department of the Attorney General, thus improving public safety.

The Department respectfully requests the passage of this bill.

**HB-893**

Submitted on: 2/4/2022 2:32:50 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Alan Urasaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I urge you to pass this bill. Thank you

**HB-893**

Submitted on: 2/4/2022 8:23:47 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/8/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This is just a Wast of Money. We the people say no more wasting our money!