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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATEWIDE TRAFFIC CODE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that large and high-  
2 passenger vehicles pose an undue risk to public safety when  
3 allowed in the fast lane of public highways. High-speed lane  
4 changes are widely considered to be among the most dangerous  
5 maneuvers, especially with regard to motorcyclists, whom the  
6 drivers of large semi-trucks may find difficult to see. In  
7 addition, efficiency suffers as trucks, trailers, and buses  
8 cause congestion to the more-nimble vehicles behind them.

9           The purpose of this Act is to prohibit large and high-  
10 passenger vehicles from using the fast lane of public highways.

11           SECTION 2. Chapter 291C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
12 amended by adding a new section to part XII to be appropriately  
13 designated and to read as follows:

14           "§291C-    Driving in left-hand lane or along left curb or  
15 edge; prohibitions. (a) Notwithstanding any contrary provision  
16 in part XVII, no person driving a vehicle with more than four  
17 wheels or a high-passenger car shall travel:



- 1        (1) In the extreme left-hand lane of a roadway if the  
2        roadway is clearly marked for two or more lanes of  
3        traffic moving in the same direction; or
- 4        (2) Closer to the left-hand curb or left-hand edge than  
5        the right-hand curb or right-hand edge of a roadway if  
6        the roadway is not clearly marked for two or more  
7        lanes.
- 8        (b) Subsection (a) shall not apply when:
- 9        (1) Traveling a distance not to exceed one thousand feet  
10       when preparing for a left turn at an intersection or  
11       into a private road or driveway; or
- 12       (2) Directed by a police officer or any other person  
13       authorized to direct, control, or regulate traffic.
- 14       (c) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (d), in  
15       case of a conflict between this section and part XVII, this  
16       section shall prevail.
- 17       (d) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a person who  
18       operates a public transportation vehicle from traveling in a  
19       lane that has been designated as a zipper lane or diamond lane  
20       by the department of transportation."



1 SECTION 3. Section 291C-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted  
3 and to read as follows:

4 "High-passenger car" means a passenger car, as defined in  
5 section 286-2, designed for carrying at least eleven  
6 passengers."

7 SECTION 4. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
8 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
9 begun before its effective date.

10 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

11 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

12

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 26 2021



# H.B. NO. 1194

**Report Title:**

Statewide Traffic Code; Left-Lane; Zipper Lane; Diamond Lane

**Description:**

Prohibits drivers from operating vehicles with more than four wheels and high-passenger cars in the left lane, or close to the left-hand curb or left-hand edge, of a state or county roadway. Exempts drivers operating public transportation vehicles in a zipper lane or diamond lane.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

