



The Judiciary, State of Hawai‘i

**Testimony to the Thirty-Second Legislature
2023 Regular Session**

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 1, 2023, 10:10 a.m.
State Capitol
Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

by:

Mai Nguyen Van
Acting Director of IT & Business Services

Michelle Acosta
Deputy Chief Court Administrator
District Court of the First Circuit

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Bill No. and Title: Senate Bill No. 1078, Relating to Electronic Citations.

Purpose: The purpose of this Act is to establish a statewide electronic citation program. The bill appropriates funds.

Judiciary’s Position:

The Judiciary SUPPORTS the intent of this measure, and recognizes the benefits that an electronic citation program offers.

First, we provide background information for the Committee’s awareness. Since 2017, there has been an eCitation pilot project in Honolulu and Maui counties, which has been funded by federal grants from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) via the State Department of Transportation (DOT).



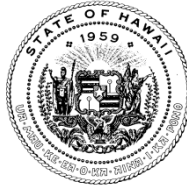
Establishing a way for the court to receive citations electronically reduces the occurrence of errors because driver license and registration are scanned directly into a device used by police officers instead of a paper citation, and the information is populated into the ticket then transmitted to the court. Motorists receive a printed citation that is clear and legible. Motorists may resolve their citations in person at the courthouse or by using the Judiciary's existing online payment system. Replacing manual paper citation handling with an electronic method improves efficiency of delivery of the citation to the Judiciary.

Full integration of electronic citations with the Judiciary Information Management System (JIMS) would further reduce delays in traffic case initiation and a motorist's ability to pay eligible fines/fees online. This integration would be the most critical part of the proposed eCitation program, as it would ensure that the Judiciary could accept and process electronic citations coming from each of the county police departments. This required programming is estimated to be a one-time cost of \$ 370,000.

In addition to the one-time integration cost, the Judiciary would request an annual recurring cost for the licenses of the Judiciary document management system, Filenet, for the Traffic Violations Bureau (TVB) staff to validate the documents received from the respective police departments were properly uploaded to the Judiciary system. The cost is estimated to be \$25,000 per year. The Judiciary would also require that each county police department provide the Judiciary access to their respective system to audit the citations and that they will include that cost in their estimates.

Finally, to ensure continued support for the eCitation program implementation and integration support with each county police department, the Judiciary respectfully asks for one (1) permanent Project Specialist position and salary funding of \$68,556 for the Administrative Director of the Courts, Information Technology and Business Services Department, in lieu of the accountant position provided for in Section 8 of the bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



TESTIMONY BY:
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DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 1, 2023
10:10 A.M.
State Capitol, Teleconference

S.B. 1078
RELATING TO ELECTRONIC CITATIONS

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** S.B. 1078, which establishes a statewide electronic citation program under the Judiciary and appropriates funds.

The implementation of an electronic, or eCitation, system would help streamline the process, such as allowing supervisors, prosecutors and Judiciary personnel to more easily read typed notes rather than difficult-to-read handwritten notes, as well as transmitting citations more quickly from law enforcement agencies to the Judiciary.

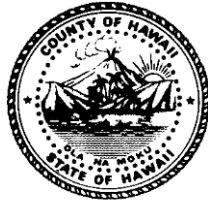
eCitation technology provides numerous benefits to law enforcement, Judiciary and to the general public, including:

- Time savings and accuracy by scanning driver license and registrations to auto populate eCitations;
- Officer and motorist safety as law enforcement officers spend less time on the side of the road writing and issuing the citation;
- More accurate citation data and less laborious data entry into multiple Records Management Systems;
- Electronic delivery of citations from rural police districts to the courts;
- Faster access to citations for violators who need to pay the fines; and
- Analysis of eCitation data (types of violations, geolocations, times of issuance, etc.) that can be used for traffic safety.

The DOT urges your support of S.B. 1078, which will streamline processes, as well as improve roadside safety for law enforcement and roadway users.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Mitchell D. Roth
Mayor



Benjamin T. Moszkowicz
Police Chief

LATE

County of Hawai'i

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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February 28, 2023

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz
Chairperson and Committee Members
Committee on Ways and Means
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: SENATE BILL 1078, RELATING TO ELECTRONIC CITATIONS
HEARING DATE: MARCH 1, 2023
TIME: 10:10 A.M.

Dear Senator Dela Cruz:

The Hawai'i Police Department **supports** Senate Bill SB1078, with its purpose to fund an electronic citation system for law enforcement, the judiciary and the general public.

We agree that using this technology will help improve the efficiency and accuracy in issuing citations. An efficient system will reduce the amount of time an officer spends in hazardous situations near moving traffic. This process will improve the flow of documents through the law enforcement agency system to the judiciary. It will reduce the amount of time staff members spend deciphering, filing and delivering paper citations between agencies.

It is important to understand that funding to sufficiently support this system is imperative for the establishment, implementation, operation, oversight, repair and maintenance for its ongoing success. We support and recommend necessary funds be appropriated out of the general revenues as grants in aid to all four Hawai'i Counties. We also support and understand the importance of establishing an additional accounting position to assist in the tracking of funding as it is distributed and utilized.

It is for these reasons we urge this committee to approve this legislation. Thank you for allowing the Hawai'i Police Department to provide comments relating to Senate Bill 1078.

Sincerely,


BENJAMIN T. MOSZKOWICZ
POLICE CHIEF

SB-1078

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 11:35:45 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Hankins	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Electronic citations have been utilized on Maui and Oahu for years as a pilot program. The benefits to continue this program on a statewide level are numerous. Electronic citations improve accuracy, deduct time for officers on traffic stops, this making it safer for officers and motorists. Speed, accuracy and vastly improved overall effecinacy with electronic citations is a benefit shared by all stakeholders, judiciary, law enforcement and community. I strongly support this bill.