STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3223

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 2 2 2024

RE: H.B. No. 1861

H.D. 2 S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate Thirty-Second State Legislature Regular Session of 2024 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts, to which was referred H.B. No. 1861, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NUMBER PLATES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Require license plates issued on or after January 1, 2025, to include 'okina in the word "Hawai'i"; and
- (2) Authorize the use of all uppercase letters, all lowercase letters, or initial capital letters for the words "Hawai'i" and "Aloha State" in motor vehicle license plates.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Customer Services of the City and County of Honolulu and ten individuals.

Your Committee finds that two years ago, the Legislature passed Act 170, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, which requires Hawaiian diacritical markings in Hawaiian names and words in official state and county letterhead. According to testimony received by your Committee, existing statute does not permit the inclusion of the 'okina on license plates. This measure will

support broader implementation of Hawaiian diacritical marks across government, including state vehicle license plates.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Limiting special number plates for environmental conservation to apply to electric vehicles only, with all the benefits and restriction of electric vehicle plates;
- (2) Specifying that the design for special number plates for environmental conservation shall not require the words "Aloha State" along the lower portion of the plate;
- (3) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1861, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1861, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts,

CHRIS LEE, Chair

The Senate Thirty-Second Legislature State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts TCA

Bill / Resolution No.:*		Committee Referral: Date:			
HB 1861, HDZ	TLA	, WA.	M	3-12-	-2024
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 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
LEE, Chris (C)					
INOUYE, Lorraine R. (VC)					
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.		V			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo		V/			
AWA, Brenton		V	<u> </u>		
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TOTAL		2			
Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted					
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Distribution: Original File with Committee Re		Yellow Pink ort Clerk's Office Drafting A			ldenrod ee File Copy

*Only one measure per Record of Votes