
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TRAFFIC SAFETY.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 291C-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "**§291C-4 Safe routes to school program special fund;**
4 **establishment.** There is established in the state treasury the
5 safe routes to school program special fund, into which shall be
6 deposited:

- 7 (1) Assessments collected for speeding in a school zone,
8 pursuant to section 291C-104; [~~and~~]
- 9 (2) Safe routes to school program surcharges collected in
10 accordance with sections 291-16 and 291C-5[~~-~~]; and
- 11 (3) Fines collected for a violation of section 291C-32(c)
12 pursuant to the photo red light imaging detector
13 system installed in a school zone pursuant to section
14 291C-161(g)."

15 SECTION 2. Section 291C-161, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 amended to read as follows:



1 "§291C-161 Penalties; photo red light imaging detector
2 system fines; automated speed enforcement system fines. (a) It
3 shall be a violation for any person to violate any of the
4 provisions of this chapter, except as otherwise specified in
5 subsections (c) and (d) and unless the violation is by other law
6 of this State declared to be a felony, misdemeanor, or petty
7 misdemeanor.

8 (b) Except as provided in subsections (c) and (d), every
9 person who is determined to have violated any provision of this
10 chapter for which another penalty is not provided shall be fined
11 not more than:

- 12 (1) \$250 for a first violation thereof;
- 13 (2) \$300 for a second violation committed within one year
14 after the date of the first violation; and
- 15 (3) \$500 for a third or subsequent violation committed
16 within one year after the date of the first violation.

17 (c) Every person convicted under or found in violation of
18 section 291C-12, 291C-12.5, 291C-12.6, 291C-13, 291C-14, 291C-
19 15, 291C-16, 291C-72, 291C-73, 291C-95, 291C-102, 291C-103,
20 291C-104, or 291C-105 shall be sentenced or fined in accordance
21 with those sections.



1 (d) Every person who violates section 291C-13 or 291C-18
2 shall:

3 (1) Be fined not more than \$250 or imprisoned not more
4 than ten days for a first conviction thereof;

5 (2) Be fined not more than \$300 or imprisoned not more
6 than twenty days or both for conviction of a second
7 offense committed within one year after the date of
8 the first offense; and

9 (3) Be fined not more than \$500 or imprisoned not more
10 than six months or both for conviction of a third or
11 subsequent offense committed within one year after the
12 date of the first offense.

13 (e) The court may assess a sum not to exceed \$50 for the
14 cost of issuing a penal summons upon any person who fails to
15 appear at the place within the time specified in the citation
16 issued to the person for any traffic violation.

17 (f) [~~Fines~~] Except as provided in subsection (g), fines
18 collected for a violation of section 291C-32(c) pursuant to the
19 photo red light imaging detector system established pursuant to
20 chapter 291J shall be deposited into the photo red light imaging
21 detector systems program special fund established under section



1 291J-12 and shall be expended in the county in which the fine
2 was imposed, for purposes that include the establishment,
3 implementation, operation, oversight, management, repair, and
4 maintenance of a photo red light imaging detector system.

5 (g) Fines collected for a violation of section 291C-32(c)
6 pursuant to the photo red light imaging detector system
7 installed in a school zone as provided under section 291J-4(b)
8 shall be deposited into the safe routes to school program
9 special fund established pursuant to section 291C-4.

10 [~~g~~] (h) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary,
11 fines collected pursuant to chapter 291L and section 291C-108
12 shall be deposited into the automated speed enforcement systems
13 program special fund established under section 291L-10 and shall
14 be expended in the county in which the fine was imposed, for
15 purposes that include the establishment, implementation,
16 operation, oversight, management, maintenance, and repair of an
17 automated speed enforcement system and implementation of the
18 automated speed enforcement systems program.

19 [~~h~~] (i) The court may require a person who violates any
20 of the provisions of this chapter to attend a course of



1 instruction in driver retraining as deemed appropriate by the
2 court, in addition to any other penalties imposed."

3 SECTION 3. Section 291C-194, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

5 "(c) Any person who is convicted of violating this section
6 shall be subject to penalties as provided under section 291C-
7 161(b) and [~~(h)~~] (i)."

8 SECTION 4. Section 291J-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
9 amended to read as follows:

10 "**§291J-4 County powers and duties.** (a) The State or any
11 county may establish and implement, in accordance with this
12 chapter, a photo red light imaging detector system imposing
13 monetary liability on the registered owner of a motor vehicle
14 for failure to comply with traffic-control signal laws. The
15 State or any county may provide for the:

- 16 (1) Procurement, location, and oversight of a photo red
17 light imaging detector system; and
18 (2) Installation, operation, maintenance, and repair of
19 the photo red light imaging detector system through a
20 third party contractor.



1 Where the photo red light imaging detector system affects state
2 property, the department shall cooperate with and assist the
3 county as needed to install, maintain, and repair the photo red
4 light imaging detector system established pursuant to this
5 chapter.

6 (b) If the State establishes a photo red light imaging
7 detector system under this chapter, priority shall be given to
8 installing photo red light imaging detector systems in school
9 zones.

10 [~~(b)~~] (c) If the State or a county establishes a red light
11 imaging detector system under this chapter, the compensation
12 paid by the State or county to a manufacturer or vendor of the
13 equipment used shall be based upon the value of the equipment
14 and services provided or rendered in support of the photo red
15 light imaging detector system, and shall not be based upon a
16 portion of the fine or civil penalty imposed or the revenue
17 generated by the equipment.

18 [~~(e)~~] (d) Prior to the installation and operation of any
19 photo red light imaging detector system, for each intersection
20 considered for enforcement via the photo red light imaging
21 detector system, the State or county shall:



- 1 (1) Conduct a comprehensive engineering review and study
2 of each intersection and implement all necessary and
3 appropriate engineering, design, and traffic-control-
4 signal timing measures; and
- 5 (2) Conduct a study to acquire a baseline average of the
6 number of motor vehicles violating section 291C-32(c)
7 over a period of not less than one week; provided that
8 the baseline average shall be determined prior to the
9 installation of any signs or other official traffic-
10 control devices that indicate that an intersection is
11 being considered for a photo red light imaging
12 detector system.

13 [~~(d)~~] (e) At least sixty days prior to the photo red light
14 imaging detector systems becoming operational, the department,
15 in conjunction with any county that implements a photo red light
16 imaging detector systems program pursuant to this chapter, shall
17 conduct a comprehensive informational and educational campaign
18 to inform motorists and the general public about the program.

19 [~~(e)~~] (f) During the first thirty days of operation of an
20 individual photo red light imaging detector system at a
21 particular traffic signal, a warning shall be issued for any



1 violation of section 291C-32(c), and mailed to the registered
2 owner of the motor vehicle at the address on record at the
3 vehicle licensing division, in lieu of a summons or citation
4 pursuant to section 291J-6.

5 (g) As used in this section, "school zone" means every
6 street and all public property in the vicinity of a school as
7 designated by the department of transportation."

8 SECTION 5. Section 291J-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
9 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

10 "(a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, and except
11 for the time period allowed pursuant to section [~~291J-4(e)~~,]
12 291J-4(f), beginning January 1, 2021, whenever any motor vehicle
13 is determined, by means of a photo red light imaging detector
14 system, to have disregarded a steady red signal in violation of
15 section 291C-32(c), the State's or county's third party
16 contractor shall cause a summons or citation, as described in
17 this section, to be sent by first class mail to the registered
18 owner of the motor vehicle. The summons or citation shall be
19 mailed to the registered owner's address on record at the
20 vehicle licensing division and submitted to the post office
21 within ten calendar days after the date of the incident. The



1 State, the county, or the State's or county's third party
2 contractor shall implement a process to record the date on which
3 the summons or citation was submitted to the post office, and
4 the record shall be prima facie evidence of the date the summons
5 or citation was submitted to the post office. If the end of the
6 ten calendar day period falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday,
7 then the ending period shall run until the end of the next day
8 that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday."

9 SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
10 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

11 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

12

INTRODUCED BY:

Josh LaChice

JAN 22 2025



H.B. NO. 1231

Report Title:

Department of Transportation; Photo Red light Imaging System;
School Zones; Fines; Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund

Description:

Requires the State to prioritize the installation of photo red light imaging detector systems in school zones if the State establishes a photo red light imaging detector system. Requires proceeds of fines collected for disregarding a steady red signal pursuant to a photo red light imaging detector system installed in a school zone to be deposited into the Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund.

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

