
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LICENSE PLATES.

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 249, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§249- Electronic license plates. Each county may
5 adopt rules, including the assessment of any reasonable fees,
6 authorizing the use of an electronic license plate in lieu of
7 one or both physical license plates furnished by the director of
8 finance; provided that:

9 (1) The displayed electronic license plate shall comply
10 with all the requirements of sections 249-9 and 249-
11 12, as applicable;

12 (2) The owner of the vehicle shall be solely responsible
13 for purchasing the electronic license plate display
14 device from an authorized manufacturer; and

15 (3) The electronic license plate shall not display a plate
16 number other than the number registered to the
17 vehicle."



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 286, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding two new sections to be appropriately
3 designated and to read as follows:

4 "§286- License plate flipping devices; prohibited. (a)
5 No person shall operate a motor vehicle with, possess, purchase,
6 install, sell, offer for sale, or otherwise distribute a license
7 plate flipping device.

8 (b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter,
9 any person who violates this section shall be fined no more than
10 \$ for each separate violation.

11 (c) For the purpose of this section "license plate
12 flipping device" means a manual, electric, or mechanical device
13 designed or adapted to be installed on a motor vehicle that:

14 (1) Switches between two or more license plates for the
15 purpose of allowing a motor vehicle operator to change
16 the license plate displayed on the operator's motor
17 vehicle; or

18 (2) Hides a license plate from view by flipping the
19 license plate so that the plate number is not visible.

20 §286- Intentional obscuring of a license plate
21 prohibited. Intentionally obscuring a vehicle's license plate



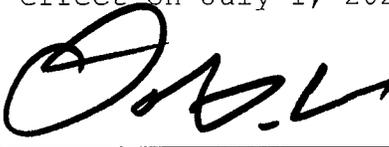
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1 through the use of a cover or shield shall be prohibited. Any
2 violation of this section shall be punishable by a fine of not
3 more than \$ _____ for each offense."

4 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

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INTRODUCED BY: 

JAN 16 2025

H.B. NO. 228

Report Title:

License Plates; Electronic License Plates; License Plate Flipping Devices; Prohibition; Fines

Description:

Authorizes the counties to adopt rules for the use of electronic license plates. Prohibits the use of license plate flipping devices. Establishes minimum fines for intentionally obscuring a license plate with a cover or shield.

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

