

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



GOV. MSG. NO. 1112

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

May 14, 2026

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate,
and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on May 14, 2026, the following bill was signed into law:

H.B. NO. 1510, H.D. 2, S.D. 1 RELATING TO LICENSE PLATES.
ACT 012

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Green M.D." in a cursive style.

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i

Approved by the Governor

on MAY 14 2026

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2026
STATE OF HAWAII

ACT 012
H.B. NO. 1510
H.D. 2
S.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LICENSE PLATES.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 286-26, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended as follows:

3 1. By amending subsection (e) to read:

4 "(e) Upon application for a certificate of inspection to
5 be issued for a vehicle or moped, an inspection as prescribed by
6 the director under subsection (g) shall be conducted on the
7 vehicle or moped. ~~[If] A certificate of inspection shall be~~
8 issued upon payment of a fee to be determined by the director if
9 the vehicle or moped is found to be in safe operating condition,
10 including ~~[adhering to head lamp requirements and specifications~~
11 ~~pursuant to section 291-25(a), as applicable, and is not]:~~

12 (1) Not being equipped with a muffler or exhaust system
13 that fails to comply with section 291-24 or 291-24.5,
14 as applicable~~[, a certificate of inspection shall be~~
15 ~~issued upon payment of a fee to be determined by the~~
16 ~~director.];~~



- 1 (2) Adhering to head lamp requirements and specifications
2 pursuant to section 291-25(a), as applicable; and
3 (3) Not being equipped with any cover or shield installed
4 over the license plate pursuant to section 286-73, as
5 applicable.

6 The certificate shall state the effective date, termination
7 date, name of the issuing insurance carrier, policy number of
8 the motor vehicle insurance identification card for the
9 inspected motor vehicle as specified by section 431:10C-107 or
10 state the information contained in the proof of insurance card
11 as specified by section 431:10G-106, and the odometer reading of
12 the vehicle on the date of inspection. A sticker, authorized by
13 the director, shall be affixed to the vehicle or moped at the
14 time a certificate of inspection is issued. An inspection
15 sticker that has been lost, stolen, or destroyed shall be
16 replaced without reinspection by the inspection station that
17 issued the original inspection sticker upon presentation of the
18 current certificate of inspection; provided that the current
19 certificate of inspection and inspection sticker shall not have
20 expired at the time the replacement is requested. The director



1 shall adopt rules to determine the fee for replacement of lost,
2 stolen, or destroyed inspection stickers."

3 2. By amending subsection (g) to read:

4 "(g) The director of transportation shall adopt necessary
5 rules for the administration of inspections and the issuance of
6 certificates of inspection; provided that the rules shall~~[+]~~, at
7 a minimum:

8 (1) [~~At a minimum, require~~] Require inspections to ensure
9 that a vehicle or moped is not equipped with a muffler
10 or exhaust system that fails to comply with section
11 291-24 or 291-24.5, as applicable; [~~and~~]

12 (2) Include head lamp requirements that adhere to the
13 specifications pursuant to section 291-25(a), as
14 applicable~~[+]~~; and

15 (3) Require inspections to ensure that a vehicle is not
16 equipped with any cover or shield installed over the
17 license plate pursuant to section 286-73."

18 SECTION 2. Section 286-73, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
19 amended to read as follows:

20 "~~[§]286-73[§]~~ **Obstruction of a license plate; prohibited.**

21 (a) The use of any cover or shield installed over a vehicle's



1 license plate, regardless of transparency or intent, shall be
2 prohibited.

3 (b) Any person, seller, or dealership who violates this
4 section shall be fined no less than [~~\$500 and no more than~~
5 \$1,000 for each offense. Each day of violation shall constitute
6 a separate offense.

7 (c) In addition to any person authorized to enforce this
8 chapter, any person authorized by the State or a county to
9 enforce parking violations, including any person authorized by a
10 state or county law enforcement agency, may issue a citation for
11 a violation of this section.

12 (d) For the purposes of this section, "cover" or "shield"
13 means any device, material, or [~~film whether~~ film, whether
14 clear, tinted, mirrored, reflective, or otherwise, that is
15 installed over or affixed to a license plate[~~, and is intended~~
16 ~~to alter or interfere with the visibility, legibility, or~~
17 ~~identification of the license plate by law enforcement or~~
18 ~~traffic enforcement systems]."~~

19 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
20 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

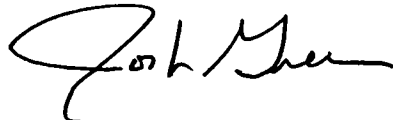


1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2027.



H.B. NO. 1510
H.D. 2
S.D. 1

APPROVED this 14th day of May, 2026

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Green". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "G".

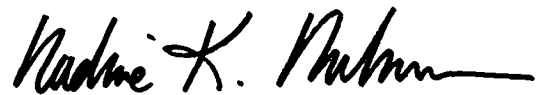
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

HB No. 1510, HD 2, SD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: April 23, 2026
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026.



Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker
House of Representatives



Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives


THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

Date: April 10, 2026
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Third Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2026.



President of the Senate



Clerk of the Senate