

JAN 23 2026

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

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

- 1       SECTION 1. Chapter 291, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately  
3 designated and to read as follows:
- 4       "\$291-       Engine brakes; prohibited. (a) No person shall  
5 operate a motor vehicle equipped with an engine brake:
- 6       (1) In any area where the posted speed limit is  
7       thirty-five miles per hour or less; and
- 8       (2) Between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. in a  
9       county with a population of five hundred thousand or  
10       more.
- 11       (b) Any person who violates this section shall be fined  
12       \$\_\_\_\_\_.
- 13       (c) As used in this section:
- 14       "Engine brake" means a vehicle brake system that uses  
15 engine compression to slow the vehicle and produces an audible  
16 release of compressed air or exhaust gases.
- 17       "Motor vehicle" has the same meaning as in section 286-2."



1 SECTION 2. Section 291C-55, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "[+]§291C-55[+] **Oversized commercial vehicles; towing;**  
4 **prohibition from using left lane.** (a) Upon any roadway having  
5 three or more lanes for traffic moving in the same direction, no  
6 commercial vehicle weighing ten thousand pounds or more or motor  
7 vehicle towing a vehicle or trailer shall be driven in the far  
8 left lane unless:

- 9 (1) The commercial vehicle or motor vehicle towing a  
10 vehicle or trailer is able to maintain speed with  
11 existing traffic flow; and  
12 (2) The commercial vehicle or motor vehicle towing a  
13 vehicle or trailer is in the process of overtaking and  
14 passing another vehicle proceeding in the same  
15 direction under the rules governing such movement.

- 16 (b) This section shall not apply to ~~commercial~~:  
17 (1) Commercial vehicles or motor vehicles towing a vehicle  
18 or trailer occupying the left lane for the purpose of  
19 turning left or exiting, or preparing to turn left or  
20 exit[-]; or



1        (2) Motor vehicles used for public transit, school buses,  
2        and authorized emergency vehicles.

3        (c) Any person who violates this section shall:

4        (1) For a first violation, be fined no more than  
5        \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ;

6        (2) For a second violation, be fined no more than  
7        \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ; and

8        (3) For a third or subsequent violation committed within  
9        three years of any other violation of this section, be  
10       fined no more than \$ \_\_\_\_\_ , attend a traffic  
11       safety course, or both.

12       (d) This section shall apply only to a county with a  
13       population of five hundred thousand or more.

14       ~~[(e)]~~ (e) For the purposes of this section[~~,"commercial"]:~~

15       "Commercial vehicle" shall have the same meaning as in  
16       section 291-11.5. "Commercial vehicle" does not include buses  
17       or van pools operated by the counties.

18       "Trailer" shall have the same meaning as in section 286-2."

19       SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
20       matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
21       begun before its effective date.



1       SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3       SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

4

INTRODUCED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shumail", is written over a horizontal line.



# S.B. NO. 2556

**Report Title:**

Motor Vehicles; Engine Brake; Prohibited; Traffic Code; Towing;  
Restrictions; Penalties

**Description:**

Prohibits any person from operating a motor vehicle equipped with an engine brake in certain areas. Prohibits motor vehicles that tow a vehicle or trailer from driving in the far left lane on any roadway that has three or more lanes for traffic moving in the same direction in a county with a population of five hundred thousand or more, with certain exceptions. Establishes penalties.

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

