

JAN 23 2026

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EXCESSIVE SPEEDING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that speed remains one of
2 the leading factors contributing to traffic accidents, serious
3 injuries, and fatalities on Hawaii's roadways. Due to the
4 state's unique topography, weather, and limited space, Hawaii's
5 roads are generally not designed for higher speeds. These
6 factors also contribute to the severity of accidents involving
7 speeding.

8 The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports
9 that, at higher speeds, passenger vehicle compartments have
10 diminishing occupant protection given the forces released in
11 high-speed crashes. The trend of increasing vehicle size, while
12 providing greater occupant protection, means that higher
13 energies are absorbed by others involved in crashes with larger
14 vehicles. In addition, the power-to-weight ratio of vehicles
15 has increased over time, and it has been shown that people
16 driving more powerful vehicles are more likely to exceed the
17 speed limit.



1 The legislature also recognizes that driver support
2 features such as adaptive cruise control may not always work as
3 intended, potentially contributing to increases in speeding.
4 Cultural norms also continue to glorify speeding. Motor
5 vehicles are marketed using speed and have capabilities that far
6 exceed any legal limits of even high-speed highways.

7 The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration notes
8 that lowering speed limits and increasing penalties for speeding
9 are demonstrated to be effective countermeasures to speeding.

10 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to amend the
11 statutory standard for excessive speeding.

12 SECTION 2. Section 291C-105, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

14 "(a) No person shall drive a motor vehicle at a speed
15 exceeding:

16 (1) The applicable state or county speed limit by [thirty]
17 twenty miles per hour or more; or
18 (2) [Eighty] Seventy miles per hour or more irrespective
19 of the applicable state or county speed limit."

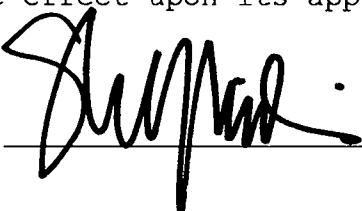


1 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
2 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
3 begun before its effective date.

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

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

7

INTRODUCED BY: 



S.B. NO. 2817

Report Title:
Excessive Speeding

Description:
Amends the statutory standard for excessive speeding.

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

