STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3111

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 2 3 2026

RE: H.B. No. 1510
H.D. 2
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Transportation, to which was referred H.B. No. 1510, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LICENSE PLATES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

(1) Condition the issuance of a certificate of inspection upon a vehicle not being equipped with any cover or shield installed over the license plate;

(2) Amend the penalty for obstruction of a license plate;

(3) Allow state or county parking enforcement officers and persons authorized by a state or county law enforcement agency to issue citations for vehicles with a cover or shield obstructing the license plate; and

(4) Repeal the requirement that a cover or shield be intended to alter or interfere with the visibility, legibility, or identification of a license plate by law enforcement or traffic enforcement systems.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and one individual.



Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

Your Committee finds that the visibility and readability of license plates are crucial for law enforcement, public safety, and automated license enforcement systems. This measure will prohibit covers and shields over license plates to ensure that license plate numbers remain clearly visible at all times, facilitating the accurate identification of vehicles.

Your Committee has amended this measure making it effective on January 1, 2027.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1510, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1510, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Transportation,
Committee on Transportation,

LORRAINE R. INOUYE, Chair

The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Transportation
TRS

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
HB 1510, HD2	TRS, JDC	03/17/2026

☐ The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.

If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

☐ Pass, unamended 2312 ☑ Pass, with amendments 2311 ☐ Hold 2310 ☐ Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
INOUYE, Lorraine R. (C)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C. (VC)	✓			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	✓			
LEE, Chris	✓			
DECORTE, Samantha	✓			
TOTAL	5	Ø	Ø	Ø

Recommendation: ☑ Adopted ☐ Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:

Distribution: Original — File with Committee Report; Yellow — Committee; Pink — Drafting Agency

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

Revised: 01/02/26