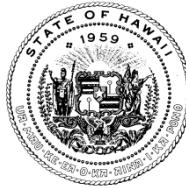


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

Deputy Directors
Nā Hope Luna Ho'okele
DREANALEE K. KALILI
TAMMY L. LEE
CURT T. OTAGURO
ROBIN K. SHISHIDO

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKUĀINA 'O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

Tuesday, February 3, 2026
3:00 PM
State Capitol, 229

**SB2355
RELATING TO VEHICLE SAFETY**

Senate Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) submits comments on Senate Bill 2355, relating to mobile vehicle safety inspections.

This bill proposes to amend Hawaii Revised Statutes § 286-209 to require the Director of Transportation to adopt rules allowing for mobile motor carrier vehicle safety inspections at locations determined by the vehicle owner and inspector.

The DOT recognizes the potential benefits of mobile vehicle safety inspections in terms of convenience for vehicle owners and potentially increasing compliance with safety inspection requirements. However, we have several concerns and considerations regarding the implementation of such a program:

1. Quality Control: Ensuring consistent inspection quality and adherence to safety standards across various mobile inspection locations may be challenging. The current centralized inspection stations allow for better oversight and standardization of inspection procedures.
2. Equipment and Technology: Mobile inspections would require inspectors to have portable equipment capable of performing all necessary safety checks. This may increase costs and potentially limit the thoroughness of inspections.
3. Inspector Safety: Conducting inspections at various locations may pose safety risks to inspectors, especially in areas with limited space or high traffic.
4. Environmental Concerns: Mobile inspections may not have access to proper facilities for handling hazardous materials or emissions testing equipment, potentially compromising environmental standards.
5. Costs: The implementation of a mobile inspection program, including equipment, training, and logistics, may result in increased costs that could be passed on to consumers.

6. Fraud Prevention: A decentralized inspection system may be more susceptible to fraudulent activities. Additional measures need to be implemented to ensure the integrity of the inspection process.

While the DOT is open to exploring innovative approaches to commercial vehicle safety inspections, we believe that careful consideration and further study are necessary before implementing a mobile inspection program. We would recommend conducting a pilot program to assess the feasibility, effectiveness, and potential challenges of mobile inspections before full-scale implementation.

The DOT is committed to maintaining the highest standards of vehicle safety while also seeking ways to improve convenience for Hawaii's motorists. We look forward to working with the legislature to explore this concept further and ensure that any changes to the inspection system prioritize both safety and efficiency.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and submit comments on this bill.

Nicolas Wong
3266 Kalua Pl
Honolulu, HI 96816

SB2355 RELATING TO VEHICLE SAFETY
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Tuesday, February 3, 2026
3:00 PM Conference Room 229

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair

Position: Support

My name is Nicolas Wong and my testimony is in support of SB2355 to allow for mobile vehicle inspections.

The current rules only allow for safety inspections to be performed at a licensed site. This rule is outdated and all information is through a tablet and program licensed by the state. Furthermore vehicles are not needed to be lifted on a car lift or driven to be inspected.

I personally have experienced multiple instances where I have made an appointment to have a safety inspection performed, only to be told the inspector is on lunch or there is no inspector today come back later, or come back next week etc. By allowing mobile safety inspections companies would be allowed to focus on safety inspections and provide this service to people their offices, warehouses, workplaces etc. and help alleviate the issue of safety inspections.

Allowing of mobile safety inspections does not negatively impact car repair facilities as most facilities view it as a burden on their mechanics. A mechanic would make far more money by fixing a vehicle instead of doing a safety inspection.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide support for SB2355. I hope you strongly consider passing this bill.

SB-2355

Submitted on: 1/29/2026 5:19:56 PM
Testimony for TRS on 2/3/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kenneth Shiu	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

I am hoping that this bill would make vehicle inspections easier.

There are areas of improvement with the current structure of safety checks. I have personally experienced many obstacles when trying to perform my safety inspection including: being turned away at inspection stations, long queues at stations that affect local traffic, no available appointments, no inspector present for the day, etc. I imagine many driver's encounter these issues as well since I see so many vehicles with overdue inspections.

Allowing safety checks to be conducted without being tied to a physical location would help to streamline the process and eliminate some of the headaches that state driver's experience. Furthermore, this could allow for new companies to be formed focused solely on safety inspections.

LATE

SB-2355

Submitted on: 2/2/2026 9:50:06 PM
Testimony for TRS on 2/3/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Crys Ito	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SB 2355 to allow mobile motor carrier safety inspections at a location agreed upon by the vehicle owner and inspector. In my experience, the current process can involve long lines, limited appointments, and wasted trips due to inspector availability. Mobile inspections would make compliance easier, reduce congestion at inspection stations, and help more drivers complete inspections on time while still maintaining safety standards.

LATE

SB-2355

Submitted on: 2/2/2026 9:58:00 PM
Testimony for TRS on 2/3/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rex Katahara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in favor of SB2355, as it would modernize and improve the vehicle safety inspection process. The existing system is hindered by limited access, excessive wait times, staffing shortages, and traffic congestion at inspection sites.

Permitting safety inspections to be performed independently of fixed locations would simplify the process, minimize delays, and create opportunities for new inspection service providers.