
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TOWING PRACTICES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that parking enforcement
2 and towing practices on state and state-leased lands are
3 currently administered through fragmented systems, inconsistent
4 standards, and varying contractual arrangements that lack
5 uniform consumer protections, transparency, accessibility
6 safeguards, and public accountability.

7 The legislature further finds that inconsistent enforcement
8 authority, inadequate notice requirements, improper towing of
9 vehicles used by persons with disabilities, coercive or cash-
10 only payment practices, and the absence of centralized public
11 reporting have undermined public trust and, in some cases,
12 interfered with rights protected under federal law.

13 The purpose of this Act is to establish a uniform towing
14 practices for public parking facilities working group to examine
15 existing state and county laws, ordinances, rules, and
16 administrative practices relating to towing from public parking



1 facilities and develop recommendations for uniform standards
2 applicable to towing from state and county parking facilities.

3 SECTION 2. (a) There is established the uniform towing
4 practices for public parking facilities working group within the
5 department of transportation for administrative purposes. The
6 working group shall:

7 (1) Review existing state and county laws, ordinances,
8 rules, and administrative practices relating to towing
9 from public parking facilities;

10 (2) Examine standards for notice, signage, fee
11 transparency, storage practices, release procedures,
12 and dispute resolutions;

13 (3) Identify inconsistencies among jurisdictions and
14 assess impacts on vehicle owners and operators;

15 (4) Develop recommendations for uniform minimum standards
16 applicable to towing from state and county parking
17 facilities, including due process protections and
18 consumer transparency requirements; and

19 (5) Recommend whether legislation, administrative
20 rulemaking, or intergovernmental agreements are
21 necessary to implement uniform practices.



1 (b) The working group shall consist of the following
2 members:

3 (1) The director of transportation, or the director's
4 designee;

5 (2) The director of commerce and consumer affairs, or the
6 director's designee;

7 (3) The attorney general, or the attorney general's
8 designee;

9 (4) The chief of police of the city and county of
10 Honolulu, or the chief's designee;

11 (5) A representative of a county police department from a
12 neighbor island, to be appointed by the governor;

13 (6) A representative of a licensed towing company, to be
14 appointed by the governor;

15 (7) A representative of a county department responsible
16 for public parking management, to be appointed by the
17 governor;

18 (8) A representative of a consumer protection or civil
19 legal services organization, to be appointed by the
20 president of the senate; and



1 (9) A member of the public with experience in
2 transportation, municipal operations, or property
3 management, to be appointed by the speaker of the
4 house of representatives.

5 (c) The director of transportation, or director's
6 designee, shall designate the chairperson of the working group.

7 (d) The members of the working group shall serve without
8 compensation but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses,
9 including travel expenses, incurred in the performance of their
10 duties.

11 (e) The working group shall submit a report of its
12 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
13 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
14 to the convening of the regular session of 2027.

15 (f) The working group shall cease to exist on June 30,
16 2027.

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



Report Title:

Working Group; Uniform Towing Practices for Public Parking
Facilities; Uniform Standards

Description:

Establishes a Uniform Towing Practices for Public Parking
Facilities Working Group within the Department of Transportation
to examine existing state and county laws, ordinances, rules,
and administrative practices relating to towing from public
parking facilities and develop recommendations for uniform
standards applicable to towing from state and county parking
facilities. Requires a report to the Legislature. (HD1)

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not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

