

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 20 , 2026

RE: H.B. No. 2026
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Transportation, to which was referred H.B. No. 2026 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to, in a county with a population of five hundred thousand or more:

- (1) Restrict motor vehicles that tow a motor vehicle or trailer from the far left lane on roads with three or more lanes going in the same direction with exemptions; and
- (2) Specify penalties for restricted motor vehicles who drive in the far left lane on roads with three or more lanes moving in the same direction.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Hawaii Transportation Association and Polynesian Adventure Tours.

Your Committee finds that on multi-lane highways in high-density areas, unrestricted use of the far left lane by vehicles towing trailers or other motor vehicles may impede traffic flow,



increase lane-changing conflicts, and elevate the risk of collisions. Restricting these vehicles from occupying the leftmost lane, except when overtaking, turning, or otherwise exempted, promotes more predictable lane usage, enhances traffic efficiency, and supports roadway safety in counties experiencing significant traffic congestion.

Your Committee further recognizes the need for practical exemptions to ensure that commercial vehicles and buses operating safely and at prevailing traffic speeds are not unduly restricted and that enforcement policies remain balanced and workable. By establishing clear lane-use standards, defined exemptions, and enforceable penalties, this measure advances safer and more orderly traffic operations while accounting for the operational realities of Hawaii's transportation system.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language permitting a commercial vehicle or motor vehicle towing a vehicle or trailer to use the far left lane if the vehicle is able to maintain speed with existing traffic flow;
- (2) Clarifying that tour buses and other commercially operated buses may use the far left lane, in addition to authorized emergency vehicles, school buses, or buses used for public transit; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider making the fine for a first violation \$250, the fine for a second violation \$500, and the fine for a third or subsequent violation \$1,000.

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. 2026, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2026, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.



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



DARIUS KILA, Chair



