

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2926

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 06 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2053
S.D. 2

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Commerce and Consumer Protection and
Judiciary, to which was referred S.B. No. 2053, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize supporting documents used to transfer ownership of a motor vehicle to an insurer after payment of damages from the result of a total loss insurance settlement to be signed electronically; and
- (2) Require insurance companies to indemnify and hold harmless the Director of Finance for any claims resulting from the issuance of motor vehicle titles utilizing documents signed electronically without a notary.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Customer Services of the City and County of Honolulu, Hawaii Insurers Council, Copart, and American Property Casualty Insurance Association.

Your Committees find that the existing system for transferring ownership of a salvaged motor vehicle to an insurer following a total loss insurance settlement requires notarized,



manual signatures, which can create unnecessary delays, administrative burdens, and higher costs. Electronic signatures offer an effective mechanism for expediting title transfers and minimizing the number of related in-person visits. This measure would streamline the process, saving time and reducing costs for the benefit of the vehicle owner, insurer, and counties, while also protecting the Director of Finance against any claims arising from the use of electronically signed documents.

Your Committees have amended this measure by inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Commerce and Consumer Protection and Judiciary that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2053, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2053, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Commerce and
Consumer Protection and
Judiciary,



KARL RHOADS, Chair



JARRETT KEOHOKALOLE, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
CPN

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB2053 SDI	TRS, CPN/JDC	2/26/2026		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310		
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett (C)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol (VC)	✓			
LAMOSAO, Rachele				✓
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K.				✓
AWA, Brenton	✓			
TOTAL	3			2
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<i>Carol Fukunaga</i>				
Distribution:				
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Committee	Pink Drafting Agency		

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

