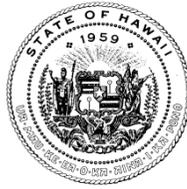


JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



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Thursday, March 5, 2026

2:00 PM

State Capitol, 325

**HB1510, HD1  
RELATING TO LICENSE PLATES**

House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) supports H.B. 1510, H.D. 1, relating to license plate obstruction and enforcement.

This bill amends Hawaii Revised Statutes sections 286-26 and 286-73 to condition the issuance of vehicle inspection certificates on compliance with license plate visibility requirements. It also prohibits covers or shields installed over license plates, increases penalties for violations, and allows parking enforcement officers to cite violators.

The DOT strongly supports this measure as it directly addresses issues that impact the visibility and readability of license plates, which are crucial for law enforcement, public safety, and automated enforcement systems. By prohibiting covers and shields over license plates, this bill ensures that license plate numbers remain clearly visible at all times, facilitating accurate identification of vehicles.

Conditioning vehicle inspection certificates on license plate visibility compliance is an effective way to ensure ongoing adherence to these requirements. This proactive approach will help maintain the integrity of our vehicle identification system and support various enforcement efforts.

The increased penalties for violations serve as a stronger deterrent against non-compliance, emphasizing the importance of proper license plate display. Additionally, empowering parking enforcement officers to cite violators expands the enforcement capacity, increasing the likelihood of detecting and addressing violations.

This bill aligns with the DOT's commitment to maintaining clear and readable license plates, which is essential for the effectiveness of automated enforcement programs that address dangerous behaviors such as speeding and running red lights. It also supports the use of license plate readers by law enforcement agencies, enhancing their ability to identify vehicles quickly and accurately.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this bill.

**HB-1510-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 2:48:43 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Johnnie-Mae L. Perry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry, Support

1510 HB RELATING TO LICENSE PLATES.

**HB-1510-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 9:51:08 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/5/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael A. Cobb Jr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. Let people have coverings over their plates. I do not support photo enforcement of traffic violations. Police can stop the law breaker at the time of incident, not after the fact, and get the individual who did the crime.