



The Judiciary, State of Hawai‘i
Ka ‘Oihana Ho‘okolokolo, Moku‘āina ‘o Hawai‘i

Testimony to the Thirty-Third Legislature, 2026 Regular Session

House Committee on Finance
Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair

Monday, March 2, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

By

Michelle D. Acosta
Deputy Chief Court Administrator
District Court of the First Circuit

Bill No. and Title: House Bill No. 2033, H.D. 2, Relating to Transportation

Purpose: PART I: Requires sellers and licensed dealers to ensure that a motor vehicle is equipped with a front number plate mounting bracket or device. Requires a seller, licensed dealer, or owner to securely fasten number plates on vehicles. PART II: Amends the Traffic Code relating to street racing. PART III: Expands the Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program to high-risk locations of state or county highways as determined by the Department of Transportation, under certain conditions. Appropriates funds. PART IV: Allows counties to use automatic license plate recognition systems to identify vehicles without current inspection or registration certificates and issue citations with fines waivable if compliance is demonstrated. Establishes data privacy and retention requirements. Allows counties, in coordination with the Department of Transportation, to use red light and speed camera systems for enforcement. PART V: Authorizes the installation of cameras on the stop arm of a school bus to record footage for evidence of a violation for passing or overtaking a school bus while the bus is stopped and its visual signals are turned on. Amends the fines for passing or overtaking a school bus while the bus is stopped and its visual signals are turned on. Appropriates funds. PART VI: Specifies that the Department of Transportation's Motor Vehicle Safety Office shall administer the Photo Red Light Imaging Detector Systems Program Special Fund and Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program Special Fund. PART VII: Clarifies language relating to photo red light enforcement, automated speed enforcement, and penalty provisions. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD2)



House Bill No. 2033, H.D. 2, Relating to Transportation
House Committee on Finance
March 2, 2026
Page 2

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary takes no position on the merits of this measure and is providing the following comments regarding Part III of the measure for consideration.

The Judiciary acknowledges the significant work invested in this bill and appreciates the continued requirement that the Department of Transportation consult with and advise affected district courts before implementation. This collaborative approach proved effective during the recent rollout of the Department's automated speed enforcement program on O'ahu, enabling the Judiciary to make necessary system adjustments to process additional citations and ensure timely, fair adjudication. Ongoing interagency consultation will remain essential to preserving the integrity and efficiency of court operations.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 03/02/2026

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: 308 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Committee: FIN

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB2033, HD2, RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

Purpose of Bill: PART I: Requires sellers and licensed dealers to ensure that a motor vehicle is equipped with a front number plate mounting bracket or device. Requires a seller, licensed dealer, or owner to securely fasten number plates on vehicles. PART II: Amends the Traffic Code relating to street racing. PART III: Expands the Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program to high-risk locations of state or county highways as determined by the Department of Transportation, under certain conditions. Appropriates funds. PART IV: Allows counties to use automatic license plate recognition systems to identify vehicles without current inspection or registration certificates and issue citations with fines waivable if compliance is demonstrated. Establishes data privacy and retention requirements. Allows counties, in coordination with the Department of Transportation, to use red light and speed camera systems for enforcement. PART V: Authorizes the installation of cameras on the stop arm of a school bus to record footage for evidence of a violation for passing or overtaking a school bus while the bus is stopped and its visual signals are turned on. Amends the fines for passing or overtaking a school bus while the bus is stopped and its visual signals are turned on. Appropriates funds. PART VI: Specifies that the Department of Transportation's Motor Vehicle Safety Office shall administer the Photo Red Light Imaging Detector Systems Program Special Fund and Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program Special Fund. PART VII: Clarifies language relating to photo red light enforcement, automated speed enforcement, and penalty provisions. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD2)

Department's Position:

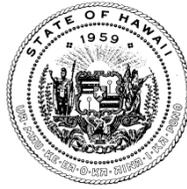
The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 2033, HD2, authorizing the installation and implementation of stop arm cameras on school buses.

Although the current contracts require stop arm camera installation on all school bus vehicles, this measure authorizes and formalizes penalties for stop arm violations in the state by law enforcement.

By clarifying driver responsibilities with regard to stop arms on school buses, HB 2033, HD2 provides essential updates to Hawaii's traffic laws.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide support for HB 2033, HD2.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU
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Monday, March 2, 2026
10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, 308

HB2033, HD2 RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

House Committee on Finance

The Department of Transportation (DOT) is in strong support of HB2033, HD 1. This comprehensive bill addresses several critical areas of transportation safety and enforcement, aligning with the DOT's mission to ensure safe and efficient transportation systems across Hawaii.

Part I clarifies that upon legal registration, motor vehicles must be equipped with a front number plate mounting bracket or device and requires sellers, licensed dealers, and owners to securely fasten number plates. These changes improve vehicle identification and support effective operation of automated enforcement systems.

Part II strengthens penalties related to racing, street takeovers, and excessive speeding. H.D.2 increases fines, establishes enhanced license suspension periods for repeat offenses, authorizes vehicle forfeiture in certain cases, and increases the allowable trauma system surcharge. These amendments provide stronger deterrence against dangerous driving behaviors that pose significant risks to the public.

Part III expands the Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program to allow implementation at high-risk locations on state or county highways as determined by DOT based on data and safety studies. H.D.2 further clarifies that while the Department may consult with the Judiciary, implementation authority rests with DOT. The measure also appropriates funds to support expanded implementation.

Part IV authorizes counties to use automatic license plate recognition (ALPR) systems to identify vehicles without current inspection or registration and issue citations, while establishing clear data privacy protections, strict access controls, and a ninety-day data retention limit. Counties may coordinate with DOT to utilize existing red light or speed camera systems under a written memorandum of agreement with defined roles, responsibilities, and cost allocation.

Part V authorizes installation of cameras on school bus stop arms to document violations for passing or overtaking a stopped school bus and updates penalty provisions. H.D.2 includes important safeguards to ensure student privacy and requires review of recorded images by authorized law enforcement or DOT personnel. The measure also appropriates funds to support implementation.

Part VI and Part VII clarify that the Department's Motor Vehicle Safety Office shall administer both the Photo Red Light Imaging Detector Systems Program Special Fund and the Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program Special Fund and align penalty and deposit provisions to ensure funds are expended in the county where the violation occurred for enforcement, oversight, and maintenance purposes.

Collectively, H.D.2 provides a comprehensive and balanced approach to improving roadway safety, strengthening enforcement tools, protecting privacy, and ensuring proper administration of automated safety programs.

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

DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES
KA 'OIHANA LAWELawe KUPA
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA

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DIRECTOR
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DEPUTY DIRECTOR
HOPE PO'O



March 2, 2026

The Honorable Chris Todd, Chair
The Honorable Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
and Members of the House Committee on Finance
State Capitol, Conference Room 308
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the House Committee on Finance:

SUBJECT: H.B. No. 2033, H.D. 2 - Relating To Transportation
HEARING: Monday, March 2, 2026, 10:00 a.m.

The City and County of Honolulu, Department of Customer Services (CSD) **supports** H.B. No. 2033, H.D. 2, specifically **Part I**, which clarifies the responsibility of sellers and licensed dealers to ensure that motor vehicles are equipped with a properly affixed front license plate mounting bracket or device prior to sale or delivery. Pursuant to Section 6-402 of the Revised Charter of the City and County of Honolulu, CSD Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) administers the motor vehicle registration program for the island of O'ahu.

This clarification addresses a recurring operational issue faced by county motor vehicle registration offices. Increasingly, vehicles are presented for registration without a front mounting bracket, requiring customers to return to dealers or obtain aftermarket solutions before registration can be completed. This results in customer inconvenience, additional trips to DMV offices, and avoidable processing delays.

By placing clear responsibility on sellers and licensed dealers at the point of sale, the bill promotes compliance earlier in the vehicle lifecycle, improves customer experience, and supports more efficient registration transactions. It also reinforces

Testimony for H.B. No. 2033, H.D. 2
March 2, 2026
Page 2

existing statutory requirements that license plates be securely affixed and properly displayed, which assists law enforcement and inspection personnel.

CSD does not anticipate significant administrative or fiscal impacts from this provision. Rather, the clarification is expected to reduce corrective actions at DMV counters and streamline registration workflows.

For these reasons, CSD **supports** H.B. No. 2033, H.D. 2 and appreciates the Legislature's consideration of this measure to improve clarity, compliance, and efficiency in motor vehicle registration processes.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of H.B. No. 2033, H.D. 2.

Sincerely,

for Kimberly M. Hashiro
Director

HB-2033-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2026 12:39:20 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2026 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill. More taxes, more government, just enforce the current laws. Hire more police and end special duty for construction projects. We need to find a better way to keep construction workers safe.