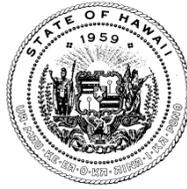


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
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Tuesday, February 17, 2026
9:30 a.m.
State Capitol, 430

HB2347
RELATING TO VEHICLE SAFETY

House Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) submits comments on H.B. 2347, which requires the Director of Transportation to adopt rules to allow mobile vehicle safety inspections.

As drafted, the bill proposes to amend Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) § 286-209 to require rulemaking for commercial motor vehicle safety inspections, including provisions for mobile inspections at locations selected by the vehicle owner and inspector. DOT believes the intent may have been to amend HRS § 286-26, which governs annual safety inspections for most registered vehicles.

DOT staff have begun reviewing the operational and policy considerations associated with a potential mobile inspection program. These include the need for a reasonable surcharge structure to account for travel time and mileage, as well as potential connectivity and equipment limitations associated with the current inspection system.

While DOT recognizes the potential convenience mobile inspections could offer, several implementation and oversight concerns warrant careful consideration:

- **Quality Control:** Maintaining consistent inspection standards outside of fixed, controlled inspection facilities may present challenges and could impact program integrity.
- **Equipment Requirements:** Mobile inspections would require portable equipment capable of performing all required safety checks. Ensuring that such equipment meets statutory and regulatory standards may increase costs and limit inspection scope.

- **Inspector Accountability:** Oversight of inspectors operating in dispersed locations may be more complex, increasing the risk of inconsistent or improper inspections without appropriate monitoring safeguards.
- **Data Management:** Real-time reporting and verification of inspections would require reliable connectivity and potentially significant upgrades to technological infrastructure.
- **Environmental and Safety Considerations:** Mobile inspections may not always occur in locations equipped to safely manage hazardous materials or provide appropriate protection for inspectors and the public.

DOT remains committed to improving the vehicle inspection process while maintaining the highest standards of safety, accountability, and public trust. We recommend additional study and stakeholder engagement to fully evaluate operational, fiscal, and legal implications before implementing a statewide mobile inspection program.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this measure.

Nicolas Wong
3266 Kalua Pl
Honolulu, HI 96816

HB2347 RELATING TO VEHICLE SAFETY
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
Tuesday, February 17, 2026
9:30 AM Conference Room 430

Rep. Darius K. Kila, Chair
Rep. Tyson K. Miyake, Vice Chair

Position: Support

My name is Nicolas Wong and my testimony is in support of HB2347 to allow for mobile vehicle inspections.

The current rules only allow for safety inspections to be performed at a licensed site. This rule is outdated and all information is through a tablet and program licensed by the state. Furthermore vehicles are not needed to be lifted on a car lift or driven to be inspected.

I personally have experienced multiple instances where I have made an appointment to have a safety inspection performed, only to be told the inspector is on lunch or there is no inspector today come back later, or come back next week etc. By allowing mobile safety inspections companies would be allowed to focus on safety inspections and provide this service to people their offices, warehouses, workplaces etc. and help alleviate the issue of safety inspections.

Allowing of mobile safety inspections does not negatively impact car repair facilities as most facilities view it as a burden on their mechanics. A mechanic would make far more money by fixing a vehicle instead of doing a safety inspection.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide support for HB2347. I hope you strongly consider passing this bill.

HB-2347

Submitted on: 2/13/2026 1:02:53 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cristine Ito	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I respectfully submit testimony in support of HB2347. I previously submitted testimony in support of SB2355, and I continue to support this measure as it advances through the legislative process.

HB2347 makes a practical improvement to motor carrier safety inspections by ensuring rules allow mobile vehicle safety inspections at a location determined by the vehicle owner and inspector. This flexibility helps reduce vehicle downtime, improves scheduling, and supports ongoing compliance.

Allowing mobile inspections does not reduce safety standards. The same inspection requirements, qualified inspectors, and documentation can remain in place. This bill simply modernizes where inspections may occur.

For these reasons, I respectfully encourage the Committee to pass HB2347. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

HB-2347

Submitted on: 2/13/2026 1:33:18 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rex Katahara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing to express my support for HB2347.

This measure introduces a common-sense update to the motor carrier safety inspection process by authorizing inspections to be performed at a location agreed upon by both the vehicle owner and the licensed inspector. Providing this option will help operators better coordinate inspections with their schedules, limit unnecessary equipment downtime, and encourage more consistent adherence to inspection requirements.

The proposal does not modify the underlying safety framework. All existing inspection procedures, recordkeeping standards, and inspector qualification requirements would remain fully in effect. The change is limited to expanding where inspections may take place, allowing the process to operate more efficiently while maintaining the same level of oversight.

I respectfully ask the Committee to move HB2347 forward. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony and for your consideration.

HB-2347

Submitted on: 2/16/2026 2:30:26 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kenneth Shiu	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

I am hoping that this bill would make vehicle inspections easier.

There are areas of improvement with the current structure of safety checks. I have personally experienced many obstacles when trying to perform my safety inspection including: being turned away at inspection stations, long queues at stations that affect local traffic, no available appointments, no inspector present for the day, etc.

I imagine many driver's encounter these issues as well since I see so many vehicles with overdue inspections. Allowing safety checks to be conducted without being tied to a physical location would help to streamline the process and eliminate some of the headaches that state driver's experience. Furthermore, this could allow for new companies to be formed focused solely on safety inspections.

HB-2347

Submitted on: 2/17/2026 8:00:28 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Adam A.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

This testimony is in support of HB2347 for Mobile Vehicle Safety Inspections. The current safety check process can be quite stressful and inefficient especially towards the end of the month. Stations may be crowded or not even open on the weekend which forces you to take time off of work and commute to the station site. In some cases, you arrive only to find out they cannot accommodate you after you've already taken time off which wastes time and adds stress to the situation as a valid safety check is also required to maintain vehicle registration. Performing a vehicle safety inspection involves handheld tools that an inspector can take anywhere without the need to be at a service station or mechanic shop. I strongly believe allowing for mobile safety inspections would greatly reduce the amount of time and burden needed for motorists to maintain the status of their safety check without compromising the process itself. Also, allowing for mobile safety inspections to occur would reduce crowding at stations and allow mechanics to focus on repairs while at their worksite without having to frequently pause to perform a safety inspection. Thank you for taking the time to review my testimony in support of HB2347.