



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

Testimony to the Thirty-Third Legislature, 2026 Regular Session

Senate Committees on Transportation
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair

and

Senate Committee on Labor and Technology
Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Chair
Senator Rachele Lamosao, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

By

Karilee Harada
Chief Adjudicator
Administrative Driver's License Revocation Office

Bill No. and Title: Senate Bill No. 2573, Relating to Administrative Driver's License Revocation.

Purpose: Authorizes administrative driver's license revocation hearings to be conducted using interactive conference technology, including teleconference, videoconference, and voice over internet protocol (VoIP) systems. Clarifies that evidence in hearings conducted via interactive conference technology may be submitted and exchanged electronically.

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary strongly supports Senate Bill No. 2573, which is part of the Judiciary's legislative package. This measure provides for Zoom hearings as an alternative to in-person and telephonic hearings. Since May 3, 2021 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, 98% of hearings at the Administrative Driver's License Revocation Office (ADLRO) have been conducted via Zoom. Since then, Zoom has become the hearing platform of choice for most



Counsel and Respondents. All parties involved in ADLRO hearings, including respondents, defense counsel, police officers, and other witnesses, can attend hearings conveniently from any location, making it more likely that witnesses will appear for hearing. Given the advancement of technology since COVID, all parties can submit and exchange both paper and video exhibits electronically; and screen sharing allows all parties to view the exhibits simultaneously, including body worn camera videos.

Currently, our statute only provides for in-person and telephonic hearings so if Respondents want a Zoom hearing, they stipulate that they waive their right to an in-person hearing. Most in-person hearing requests are by neighbor island pro se respondents who do not have adequate internet access. Once Counsel or pro se respondents request an in-person hearing, the hearing is scheduled as in-person pursuant to statute. This bill, however, provides another option for those who prefer using Zoom.

Zoom hearings are economical, saving the Judiciary significant travel expense and time. Zoom hearings have also reduced the staffing needs at the ADLRO. The office no longer employs a receptionist because participants do not need to appear at the office and be monitored. Hearing Officers rotate the task of moderating and hosting the Zoom platform each day.

For these reasons, the Judiciary urges your support of Senate Bill No. 2573. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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SB2573
RELATING TO ADMINISTRATIVE DRIVERS LICENSE REVOCATION

Senate Committees on Transportation and Labor and Technology

The Department of Transportation (DOT) is in strong support of Senate Bill 2573, which authorizes administrative drivers license revocation hearings to be conducted using interactive conference technology and clarifies procedures for electronic evidence submission.

By allowing the use of interactive conference technology, this bill will increase accessibility to hearings, potentially reducing delays and improving efficiency in the driver's license revocation process. This is particularly beneficial for individuals who may face difficulties attending in-person hearings due to geographical constraints or other limitations.

The DOT believes that these changes will enhance the overall effectiveness of the administrative driver's license revocation system while maintaining the integrity of the hearing process.

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