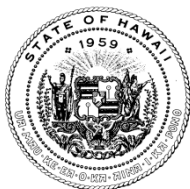


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU
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ROBIN K. SHISHIDO

LATE

Tues, March 24, 2026
3:02PM
State Capitol, 229

**SR137 / SCR145
REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONVENE A TASK
FORCE TO EVALUATE WHETHER THE STATE SHOULD IMPLEMENT A DEMERIT
POINT SYSTEM FOR TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS.**

Senate Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) supports SR137 and SCR145, which requests the DOT to convene a task force to evaluate whether the State should implement a demerit point system for traffic violations.

This resolution aligns with the DOT's mission to promote safe and responsible driving practices across the State of Hawaii. The proposed demerit point system aims to address the increasing number of traffic incidents involving serious bodily injury or death, particularly those involving hit-and-run scenarios where drivers abandon the scene without rendering aid or sharing pertinent information. By implementing such a system, the State can incentivize safer driving behaviors and reduce repeat offenses, thereby enhancing public safety on our roads.

The task force composition, as outlined in the resolution, includes key stakeholders from various levels of government and transportation services—such as the Director of Transportation, representatives from the City and County of Honolulu, the County of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui, as well as law enforcement officials. This inclusive approach ensures that all relevant perspectives are considered when evaluating the feasibility and effectiveness of a demerit point system.

Furthermore, the resolution mandates that the DOT submit a comprehensive report to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2028. This timeline allows sufficient time for data analysis, stakeholder consultation, and policy development before legislative action is taken.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

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

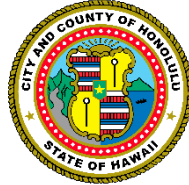
ADMINISTRATION

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March 23, 2026

The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
The Honorable Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Transportation
State Capitol, Conference Room 229
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Senate Committee on Transportation:

SUBJECT: S.C.R. No. 145 - Requesting the Department of Transportation to Convene a Task Force to Evaluate Whether the State Should Implement a Demerit Point System for Traffic Violations

S.R. No. 137 - Requesting the Department of Transportation to Convene a Task Force to Evaluate Whether the State Should Implement a Demerit Point System for Traffic Violations

HEARING: Tuesday, March 24, 2026, 3:02 p.m.

The City and County of Honolulu, Department of Customer Services (CSD) respectfully offers **comments** on S.C.R. No. 145 and S.R. No. 137, which request the Department of Transportation to convene a task force to evaluate whether the state should implement a demerit point system for traffic violations. 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 driver licensing program for the island of O'ahu. CSD DMV offers the following comments for your committee's consideration.

The counties will be responsible for implementing any driver license status changes, coding restrictions, processing compliance documentation, and ensuring accurate reflection of these actions within statewide driver record systems.

Implementation will require information technology updates, new suspension and restriction codes, system modifications, revised administrative procedures, staff training, and updated public guidance. Coordination between the Judiciary, Department of Transportation, and county DMVs will be essential to ensure consistent statewide application.

Given these significant operational considerations, we respectfully request the Legislature provide clear guidance on funding, resources and the necessary time available for implementation. CSD DMV urges the Legislature to consider the impact on county operations and, should this matter move forward, requests a phased approach to implementation that will allow for a reasonable and adequate amount of time for the counties to research and assess implementation requirements, staffing, funding requirements, information technology and other resource impacts, necessary updated administrative procedures, staff training, and good public outreach.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on S.C.R. No. 145 and S.R. No. 137.

Sincerely,

for Kimberly M. Hashiro
Director

SCR-145

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 10:18:21 AM

Testimony for TRS on 3/24/2026 3:02:00 PM

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

Comments:

I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry, Support

137 SR REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO EVALUATE WHETHER THE STATE SHOULD IMPLEMENT A DEMERIT POINT SYSTEM FOR TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS.

LATE

SCR-145

Submitted on: 3/24/2026 9:33:25 AM

Testimony for TRS on 3/24/2026 3:02:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cora Yamamoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

More driver accountability is needed. A demerits point system with meaningful graduated penalties can provide provide this. Let's see if a system like this, which is working in other jurisdictions, can be adpoted here.

In recent years, particularly after the COVID lockdown, a segment of drivers in Hawai‘i have increasingly engaged in dangerous behavior: speeding, racing, weaving, red light running, driving impaired and distracted.

We are seeing historically high numbers of traffic fatalities and injuries. Law enforcement is stretched thin. Somehow someone like Mitchell Miyashiro, the driver who killed Sara, who had accumulated multiple serious traffic violations over many years. was still on our roads driving when he hit Sara and her classmate.

A points system with graduated penalties has the promise of being a systematic way of tracking traffic violaters, disincentiving illegal behavior, and educating drivers and the public.

Mahalo Senator Rhoads for introducing this resolution.

I urge its approval and ultimate passage.

Cora Yamamoto

Lower Alewa Heights