HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ORDINANCE 25-53

BILL 42 (2025), CD1, FD1

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE

RELATING TO TAXICABS.

BE IT ORDAINED by the People of the City and County of Honolulu:

SECTION 1. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to address the regulation of taxicabs and taxicab companies.

SECTION 2. Section 36-1.8, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021, is amended to read as follows:

"**§ 36-1.8 Taximeters.**

(a) *Installation.* Each taxicab [~~shall~~] must be equipped with a digital electronic taximeter calibrated to charge the [~~current~~] fare [~~established pursuant to § 36-1.9~~] posted pursuant to § 36-1.9(b) and which [~~shall meet or exceed~~] meets or exceeds the requirements of subsection (b).

(b) *Technical requirements of taximeters.* The specifications, tolerances, and other technical requirements relating [~~thereto shall~~] to taximeters must be as established by the State [~~division of weights and measures.~~] department of agriculture, measurement standards branch. The operation, visibility, lighting, and inspection [~~will~~] must conform to all applicable State laws or regulations.

(c) *Inspection.* No driver, owner, or operator of a taxicab or taxi stand [~~shall~~] may use or cause to be used a taxicab for purposes of hire before the taximeter, installed therein, has been inspected for accuracy in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.

(d) *Current* [~~*rates.* No~~] *fares.* A driver, owner, or operator of a taxicab or taxi stand [~~shall~~] may not use or cause to be used for purposes of hire, a taxicab installed with a taximeter not reflecting the current [~~rates.~~] fares posted pursuant to § 36-1.9(b)."

SECTION 3. Section 36-1.9, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021, is amended to read as follows:

"**§ 36-1.9 [~~Director to establish rate of fare and baggage charge—Exceptions—Conditions—Receipt required upon request.~~] Fares and charges.**

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[~~(a) The maximum fares and baggage charges that may be charged to passengers of taxicabs shall be established by the director. The fares and charges shall be established by rules adopted by the director. The fares and charges shall be reviewed by the director at least once every two years following January 1, 1992 and shall be amended, as necessary, to reflect changes in the private transportation component of the consumer price index for Honolulu, as determined by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; provided that the director may amend the fares and charges more frequently than once every two years if deemed necessary.~~

~~(b) In addition to the fares and charges established in subsection (a), the director may establish a fuel surcharge for taxicab operators to be charged to passengers. Every six months, the director shall determine whether a fuel surcharge should be established based on any increase in the base amount and the average fuel prices. Any fuel surcharge shall be established by rules adopted by the director pursuant to HRS Chapter 91.~~

~~(c) The fares or charges established pursuant to this section shall be subject to the following exceptions or conditions, whichever the case may be:~~

~~(1)~~](a) *When fares or charges permitted*. Fares and charges are only applicable to the use of the taxicab when [~~actually occupied by or standing at the direction of the passenger for hire or when occupied by parcels or baggage transported for hire; provided that no other charges shall be made for the use of a taxicab for hire except as provided herein.~~] hired.

[~~(2)~~](b) *Posting of fares and charges*. [~~The~~] An accurate schedule of fares and charges [~~established pursuant to this section shall~~] must be printed in bold type letters, not less than 3/16 of an inch in height, posted within 12 inches of the taximeters and readily visible to all passengers for hire.

[~~(3) *Exceptions and conditions for use of fares and charges lower than those established*. A taxicab driver or taxicab company may adjust the meters on a taxicab so that a lower fare or charge may be assessed than those established pursuant to this section; provided, that if a taxicab driver or taxicab company owns or operates more than one taxicab, all of the taxicabs shall have their taximeters adjusted to the lower fare or charge; and provided further, that such lower fare or charge shall be posted as prescribed in subdivision (2). The taxicab driver or taxicab company may waive the baggage charges established pursuant to this section.~~

~~(4) This section shall not be construed to preclude a taxicab driver or taxicab company from charging a passenger less than the amount due indicated by the taximeter.~~

~~(5)~~](c) The fares for shared-ride taxicab service shall be established by the tariff filed under § 36-1.20[~~, rather than the fares and charges established pursuant to this section~~].

(d) *Receipt required upon request.*

(1) At the end of the taxicab trip, the operator shall, upon request, provide at least one passenger with a receipt that records the following information: origin, destination, time, and date of the taxicab service; all fares and charges; the name of the taxicab operator, printed or written, so that it is legible; the printed name and telephone number of the taxicab company; a telephone number, as designated by the director, to call for the filing of complaints; and any other information deemed necessary by the director.

(2) All taxicab receipt forms [~~shall~~] must be approved by the director before use by a taxicab company."

SECTION 4. Section 36-1.10, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021, is amended to read as follows:

"**§ 36-1.10 Special operations.**

Notwithstanding any provision contained herein to the contrary, any taxicab operator may operate the taxicab operator's taxicab as a jitney during a public bus service total stoppage subject to the following:

(1) The fare per passenger [~~shall~~] may be no more than twice the current per-trip adult city bus fare;

(2) The taxicab operator may operate the taxicab as a jitney only along existing public bus service routes; provided that the director is authorized to add new jitney routes in addition to the routes mentioned in this section whenever the director has sufficient evidence that the public, using the public transit service, [~~is desirous of~~] desires having such additional jitney routes for their convenience;

(3) There [~~shall~~] must be prominently displayed on the taxicab being operated as a jitney a sign reading "jitney" and indicating the fare per passenger, which [~~shall~~] must be facing outward so it [~~shall~~] will be visible by potential passengers and such signs [~~shall~~] will be furnished by the director;

(4) The loading or unloading of passengers [~~shall~~] may take place only at established public bus service bus stops along the routes prescribed herein; and

(5) A baggage fee may be assessed during jitney operations according to the [~~fee for~~] current baggage [~~established pursuant to § 36-1.9.~~] charge posted pursuant to § 36-1.9(b)."

SECTION 5. Chapter 36, Article 1, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("Taxicabs"), is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated by the Revisor of Ordinances and to read as follows:

"**§ 36-1. Taxes and third-party fees.**

A taxicab driver or a taxicab company may pass on to a passenger the taxes and nonrefundable third-party fees charged to the taxicab driver or the taxicab company for transporting the passenger from the place of pickup to the destination or destinations."

SECTION 6. No later than five years after the effective date of this ordinance, the Director of Customer Services shall submit to the City Council recommendations regarding the repeal, modification, or extension of Chapter 36, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021.

SECTION 7. In SECTIONS 2, 3, 4, and 5 of this ordinance, ordinance material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New material is underscored. When revising, compiling, or printing this ordinance for inclusion in the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, the Revisor of Ordinances need not include the brackets, the material that has been bracketed and stricken, or the underscoring.

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SECTION 8. This ordinance takes effect upon its approval.

INTRODUCED BY:

Matt Weyer

Andria Tupola

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

April 30, 2025
Honolulu, Hawai'i

Councilmembers

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Deputy Corporation Counsel
DUANE W.H. PANG

APPROVED this 22nd day of Dec., 20 25.

RICK BLANGIARDI, Mayor
City and County of Honolulu

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CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

CERTIFICATE

BILL 42 (2025), CD1, FD1

Introduced: 04/30/25 By: MATT WEYER
ANDRIA TUPOLA

Committee: INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORTATION & TECHNOLOGY (ITT)

Title: RELATING TO TAXICABS.

Voting Legend: * = Aye w/Reservations

04/30/25	INTRO	Introduced.
05/14/25	CCL	Passed first reading. 9 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, NISHIMOTO, OKIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA, WATERS, WEYER
05/23/25	PUBLISH	Public hearing notice published in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser.
05/28/25	PI&T	Postponed to a date and time to be determined by the Committee Chair. 5 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, OKIMOTO, TUPOLA, WEYER
06/18/25		CC-181(25) - Bill re-referred from Planning, Infrastructure & Transportation to Infrastructure, Transportation & Technology Committee.
09/19/25	PUBLISH	Public hearing notice published in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser.
09/24/25	ITT	Reported out for passage on second reading and scheduling of a public hearing as amended in CD1 form. CR-317 5 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, OKIMOTO, TUPOLA, WEYER
10/01/25	CCL/PH	Committee report adopted. Bill passed second reading as amended, public hearing closed and referred to committee. 8 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, NISHIMOTO, OKIMOTO, TULBA, WATERS, WEYER 1 ABSENT: TUPOLA
10/09/25	PUBLISH	Second reading notice published in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser.
11/19/25	ITT	Reported out for passage on third reading. CR-372 4 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, TUPOLA, WEYER 1 ABSENT: OKIMOTO
12/03/25	CCL	Amended to FD1. OCS2025-0925/11/24/2025 9:50 AM 8 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, NISHIMOTO, OKIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA, WATERS 1 ABSENT: WEYER

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12/03/25	CCL	Committee report adopted and Bill passed third reading. 8 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, NISHIMOTO, OKIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA, WATERS 1 ABSENT: WEYER

I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this BILL.

GLEN I. TAKAHASHI, CITY CLERK

TOMMY WATERS, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER