

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

No. 26 - 1

RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE STATE OF HAWAII TO EVALUATE AND CONSIDER
REQUIRING A TEST OF KNOWLEDGE OF THE RULES OF THE ROAD FOR
DRIVER'S LICENSE RENEWALS.

WHEREAS, Act 330, Session Laws of Hawaii'i 1997, repealed the requirement
that an applicant for a renewal of a driver's license pass a test of knowledge of the rules
of the road; and

WHEREAS, current requirements for renewing a driver's license include
completing an application form, furnishing proof of identity, passing a vision exam, and
paying required fees; and

WHEREAS, on O'ahu in 2024, 51 people were killed as the result of traffic
accidents, and, according to the Honolulu Police Department, in 2025, traffic accidents
resulting in fatalities have occurred at nearly double the rate of the previous year, with
the 73rd fatality occurring on November 1, 2025; and

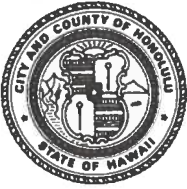
WHEREAS, the increase in traffic fatalities is a Statewide concern, and on
September 18, 2025, the Governor issued Executive Order No. 25-08 (Establishing a
Comprehensive Framework for Statewide Traffic and Roadway Safety); and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 25-08, in part, directs the State Department of
Transportation, in collaboration with the counties, to consider establishing a tiered
system for driver's license renewal based on drivers' records; and

WHEREAS, safe driving habits can be reinforced by requiring drivers to
demonstrate familiarity with current traffic laws and ordinances, which could be
achieved by reinstating a test requirement for driver's license renewal; and

WHEREAS, since traffic laws and ordinances change over time, it may be
beneficial for all drivers to demonstrate their understanding of current traffic laws and
ordinances by the successful completion of a test of knowledge of the rules of the road;
and

WHEREAS, the Council believes it is important to remind drivers that driving is a
privilege, not a right, and that increasing awareness of driving laws within the
community will promote the health and welfare of all users of our transportation
systems; now, therefore,



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BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that it requests that the State Department of Transportation evaluate implementation of a requirement for applicants for a renewal of a driver's license to successfully complete a test of knowledge of the rules of the road; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawai'i State Legislature is requested to consider amending the statutes pertaining to motor vehicle driver licensing to reinstitute the requirement that applicants for driver's license renewal be tested on their knowledge of the rules of the road as part of the applicants' determination of fitness to continue to operate a motor vehicle; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of the Hawai'i State Legislature, and the State Director of Transportation.

INTRODUCED BY:

Radiant P. Odo

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

JAN 5 2026

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Councilmembers

CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII
CERTIFICATE

RESOLUTION 26-1

Introduced: 01/05/26 By: RADIANT CORDERO

Committee: GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY &
CUSTOMER SERVICES (GCS)

Title: REQUESTING THE STATE OF HAWAII TO EVALUATE AND CONSIDER REQUIRING A TEST OF KNOWLEDGE OF THE
RULES OF THE ROAD FOR DRIVER'S LICENSE RENEWALS.

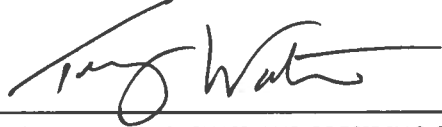
Voting Legend: * = Aye w/Reservations

01/06/26	INTRO	Introduced.
01/15/26	GCS	Reported out for adoption.
		CR-22(26)
		4 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, NISHIMOTO, WEYER
01/28/26	CCL	Committee report and Resolution were adopted.
		9 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, NISHIMOTO, OKIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA, WATERS, 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
RESOLUTION.



GLEN I. TAKAHASHI, CITY CLERK



TOMMY WATERS, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER