
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTRONIC TRAFFIC CITATIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Prior to 2007, the San Jose Police Department
2 issued paper citations that took three weeks to process. An
3 electronic citation system implemented in 2007 now enables
4 officers to issue tickets more accurately and the courts to
5 process tickets more efficiently and expediently.

6 Officers using the electronic citation system carry
7 handheld computers loaded with special software, which allows
8 the writing of traffic tickets more quickly and reduces the
9 error rate and redundant entries. A copy of the citation is
10 printed on a mobile printer and issued to the driver and
11 officers can easily upload all the citations onto a central
12 server at the end of their shift or at a wireless access point.
13 This data is processed and electronically sent to the Santa
14 Clara court system.

15 The courts have been involved with the electronic citation
16 system in San Jose since its inception. The system now is fully
17 integrated for all violations heard in traffic court. Because



1 the system coordinates court and law enforcement functions,
2 ticket processing is streamlined and there is less risk of lost
3 paperwork or misinterpretation of the ticket's contents. The
4 technology significantly reduces the time spent on processing
5 citations.

6 The legislature finds that the implementation of an
7 electronic traffic citation system is a necessity in the age of
8 high technology computerization.

9 The purpose of this Act is to require the development,
10 installation, and implementation of an electronic traffic
11 citation system.

12 SECTION 2. Chapter 291C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately
14 designated and to read as follows:

15 "§291C- Electronic traffic citation system; established.

16 (a) There is established an electronic traffic citation system
17 which shall apply to all citations for traffic infractions and
18 violations under this chapter, as well as other traffic
19 infractions and violations as determined by each county police
20 chief to be appropriate for an electronic traffic citation
21 system.



1 (b) The department of transportation shall develop,
2 install, and implement an electronic traffic citation system for
3 use in each county, in collaboration with the judiciary and the
4 police chief of the respective counties.

5 (c) The goal of an electronic traffic citation system
6 shall be to streamline the issuance of traffic citations, with
7 minimal risk of lost paperwork or misinterpretation of
8 information written on the citation. An electronic traffic
9 citation system shall be designed to significantly reduce the
10 time spent on processing citations, including processing time in
11 the traffic courts.

12 (d) As used in this section, the term "electronic traffic
13 citation system" shall include the use by a police officer of a
14 mobile or handheld computer at the scene of a traffic stop in
15 lieu of a paper citation or other paper document."

16 SECTION 3. The development, installation, and
17 implementation of an electronic traffic citation system for use
18 in each county under this Act shall commence not later than
19 January , , and shall be completed no later than
20 December 31, .



1 SECTION 4. The department of transportation may serialize
2 the selection of counties for the development, installation, and
3 implementation of an electronic traffic citation system.

4 SECTION 5. Each county and the judiciary shall contribute
5 proportionate funding for the development, installation, and
6 implementation of an electronic traffic citation system;
7 provided that the department of transportation shall seek to
8 obtain appropriate federal funding for the development,
9 installation, and implementation of an electronic traffic
10 citation system; and provided further that the department of
11 transportation shall seek an appropriation from the legislature
12 for the development, installation, and implementation of an
13 electronic traffic citation system.

14 SECTION 6. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: Joseph M. Smith

JAN 13 2010



Report Title:

Traffic Citations; Electronic Ticketing

Description:

Establishes an electronic traffic citation system. Requires the department of transportation to develop, install, and implement an electronic traffic citation system. Requires proportionate funding from each county and the judiciary. Requires the DOT to seek an appropriation and federal funding.

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