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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES.

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

1           SECTION 1. Section 286-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3           "§286-52 Procedure when title of vehicle transferred;  
4 delivery of certificate mandatory. (a) [~~Upon a transfer of~~]  
5 When transferring the title or interest of a legal owner in or  
6 to a vehicle registered under this part, the person whose title  
7 or interest is to be transferred and the transferee shall write  
8 their signatures with pen and ink upon the certificate of  
9 ownership issued for the vehicle, together with the address of  
10 the transferee in the appropriate space provided upon the  
11 certificate[-], and shall both appear in person before a clerk  
12 at the respective county department of motor vehicles to execute  
13 the transfer. If the transferor is not available to appear in  
14 person, the transferor shall complete the certificate of  
15 ownership, together with the notice of transfer, and sign the  
16 certificate of ownership before a notary public in the State or  
17 any other state. The transferee and the transferor's



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1 representative shall both appear in person and present the  
 2 notarized document at the county department of motor vehicles  
 3 when transferring the title to the transferee.

4 (b) Within thirty calendar days [~~thereafter, the~~  
 5 ~~transferee shall forward the certificate of ownership so~~  
 6 ~~endorsed to the director of finance who shall file the same,~~  
 7 ~~provided that if the recorded lien holder does not have an~~  
 8 ~~office in the State, the applicable period shall be sixty days.]~~  
 9 of the date on the notice of transfer, the transferor or  
 10 representative along with the transferee shall abide by the  
 11 rules set forth in subsection (a). Whenever a [~~transferee]~~  
 12 transferor fails to comply with these provisions, the director  
 13 of finance shall charge a fee of \$50, in addition to the fee  
 14 provided in section 286-51 [~~, for a new certificate of~~  
 15 ~~ownership]~~.

16 (c) Subsection [~~(b), requiring a transferee to forward the~~  
 17 ~~certificate of ownership after endorsement to the director of~~  
 18 ~~finance,]~~ (a) shall not apply [~~to~~] in the event that the  
 19 transferee of a vehicle who was not intending to and does not  
 20 drive the vehicle or permit the vehicle to be driven upon the  
 21 public highways, but every such transferee, upon transferring



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1 the transferee's interest or title to another, shall give notice  
2 of the transfer to the director of finance and endorse the  
3 certificate of ownership to the new legal owner and the  
4 certificate of registration to the new owner; provided that if  
5 the director of finance has ascertained as of the date of the  
6 application that the registered owner has not deposited or paid  
7 bail with respect to any summons or citation issued to the  
8 registered owner for stopping, standing, or parking in violation  
9 of traffic ordinances within the county, the director may  
10 require, as a condition precedent to the transfer, that the  
11 registered owner deposit or pay bail with respect to all such  
12 summons or citations.

13 (d) The director of finance, upon receipt of the  
14 certificate of ownership properly endorsed, shall register the  
15 vehicle, and shall issue to the owner and legal owner entitled  
16 thereto by reason of the transfer a new certificate of  
17 registration and the certificate of ownership, respectively, in  
18 the manner and form hereinabove provided for original  
19 registration.

20 (e) Until the director of finance has issued the new  
21 certificate of registration and certificate of ownership as in



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1 provided in subsection (d) [~~provided~~], delivery of such vehicle  
2 shall be deemed not to have been made and title thereto shall be  
3 deemed not to have passed, and the intended transfer shall be  
4 deemed to be incomplete and not to be valid or effective for any  
5 purpose, notwithstanding any provision of the Uniform Commercial  
6 Code; provided that a security interest in a motor vehicle shall  
7 be perfected as provided in the Uniform Commercial Code, section  
8 490:9-311 and that the validity, attachment, priority, and  
9 enforcement of such security interest shall be governed by  
10 Article 9 of the Code.

11 (f) In the event of the transfer by operation of law of  
12 the title or interest of a legal owner in and to a vehicle  
13 registered under this part, as upon inheritance, devise, or  
14 bequest, order in bankruptcy, or insolvency, execution sale,  
15 repossession upon default in performance of the terms of a lease  
16 or executory sales contract, or otherwise than by the voluntary  
17 act of the person whose title or interest is so transferred, the  
18 certificate of ownership shall be signed upon the spaces  
19 provided by the personal representative, receiver, trustee,  
20 sheriff, or other representative, or successor in interest of  
21 the person whose title or interest is so transferred in lieu of



1 such person. Every personal representative, receiver, trustee,  
2 sheriff, or other representative hereinabove referred to shall  
3 file with the director of finance a notice of any transfer by  
4 sale, lease, or otherwise by such person, of any such vehicle,  
5 together with evidence satisfactory to the director of finance  
6 of all facts entitling such representative to make the transfer.  
7 Upon notice given to the director of finance that transfer by  
8 operation of law of the title or interest of a legal owner or a  
9 registered owner has been effected pursuant to any provision of  
10 law, the director of finance shall send to the legal owner or  
11 the registered owner or both a notice by registered mail of such  
12 action and requesting the delivery to the director of finance of  
13 the certificate of ownership or the certificate of registration,  
14 as the case may be, within ten days after date of mailing of the  
15 notice, and any person who refuses or neglects to deliver the  
16 same to the director of finance pursuant to the notice shall be  
17 guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished as provided in  
18 section 286-61.

19 (g) Nothing in the foregoing subsections shall prevent a  
20 legal owner from assigning the title or interest in or to a  
21 vehicle registered under this part to another legal owner at any



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1 time without the consent of and without affecting the interest  
2 of the holder of the certificate of registration thereof. Upon  
3 filing with the director of finance of a certificate of  
4 ownership endorsed by the legal owner and a transferee of legal  
5 ownership, the director of finance shall, whether the  
6 certificate of registration has expired or not, enter the name  
7 of the new legal owner upon the records of the director's office  
8 and shall forthwith issue a new certificate of ownership to the  
9 new legal owner in the form for original registration. Upon so  
10 doing, the director of finance shall send to the registered  
11 owner a notice by mail of the action.

12 (h) Any person who refuses or neglects to deliver a  
13 certificate of ownership to a transferee entitled thereto under  
14 this part, shall be punished as provided in section 286-61.

15 (i) Every dealer, upon transferring a motor vehicle,  
16 whether by sale, lease, or otherwise, shall immediately give  
17 notice of the transfer to the director of finance upon the  
18 official form provided by the director of finance. Every such  
19 notice shall contain the date of the transfer, the names and  
20 addresses of the transferor and transferee, and such description  
21 of the vehicle as may be called for in the official form.



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1       ~~[(j) Every person, other than a dealer, upon transferring~~  
2 ~~a motor vehicle, whether by sale, lease, or otherwise, shall~~  
3 ~~within ten days give notice of the transfer to the director of~~  
4 ~~finance upon the official form provided by the director of~~  
5 ~~finance. Every notice shall contain the date of transfer, the~~  
6 ~~names and addresses of the transferor and transferee, and such~~  
7 ~~description of the vehicle as may be called for in the official~~  
8 ~~form. Any person who violates this subsection shall be fined~~  
9 ~~not more than \$100.~~

10       ~~(k)]~~ (j) Whenever ~~[the registered owner of any motor~~  
11 ~~vehicle or]~~ any licensed dealer has given notice to the director  
12 of finance of a transfer of the title or interest in the motor  
13 vehicle, as provided in subsection (i) ~~[or (j)]~~, and has  
14 delivered the certificate of ownership bearing the transferor's  
15 signature to the transferee as required by subsection (a), the  
16 transferor shall be relieved from any liability, civil or  
17 criminal, from the date the transferor delivers the motor  
18 vehicle into the transferee's possession, which the transferor  
19 might otherwise subsequently incur by reason solely of being the  
20 registered owner of the vehicle.



1           ~~(l)~~ (k) A licensed dealer who has forwarded a properly  
2 endorsed certificate of ownership to the director of finance  
3 shall be relieved of any civil liability, from the date the  
4 transferor delivers the motor vehicle into the transferee's  
5 possession, which the transferor might otherwise subsequently  
6 incur by reason solely of being the registered owner of the  
7 vehicle; provided that a specific written authorization to  
8 forward the certificate has been obtained from the transferee.

9           ~~(m)~~ (l) Any person who falsely or fraudulently gives  
10 notice to the director of finance of a transfer of title or  
11 interest in a motor vehicle shall be subject to the penalty  
12 provided in section 286-61."

13           SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
14 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

15           SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

16

INTRODUCED BY:



By Request

JAN 21 2021





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**Report Title:**

Hawaii State Association of Counties Package; Registration of Vehicles; Registration Transfer; Personal Delivery; Fees

**Description:**

Requires a motor vehicle transferor, or the transferor's representative, and transferee to appear in person to execute the transfer of a motor vehicle. Subjects motor vehicle transferors to certain fees previously assessed on motor vehicle transferees.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

