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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATEWIDE TRAFFIC CODE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that secondhand smoke is  
2 a dangerous class A carcinogen in the same class as asbestos and  
3 benzene. Secondhand smoke typically contains at least seven  
4 thousand identifiable chemicals, around seventy of which are  
5 known or probable carcinogens. The fiftieth anniversary United  
6 States Surgeon General Report, released on January 17, 2014,  
7 states that any level of exposure to secondhand smoke is  
8 dangerous and over two and a half million nonsmokers have died  
9 from health problems caused by secondhand smoke since 1964.

10           The legislature further finds that in general, children  
11 breathe in more air than adults because their lungs are still  
12 developing. Children also have little or no control over their  
13 environments and cannot leave if secondhand smoke bothers them.  
14 As a result, children exposed to secondhand smoke run a greater  
15 risk of suffering from the damaging health effects.

16           According to the Centers for Disease Control and  
17 Prevention, secondhand smoke can cause heart disease, lung



1 cancer, and stroke. In children, secondhand smoke can also  
2 cause ear infections; more frequent and severe asthma attacks;  
3 respiratory symptoms such as coughing, sneezing, and shortness  
4 of breath; respiratory infections such as bronchitis and  
5 pneumonia; and a greater risk for sudden infant death syndrome.

6 Studies have found that secondhand smoke exposure in  
7 vehicles is more concentrated than in bars and restaurants.  
8 Secondhand smoke in a car causes the air to be many times more  
9 toxic than what the Environmental Protection Agency considers  
10 hazardous air quality, even when a window is down. Smoke-free  
11 vehicle policies ensure that clear air is maintained within the  
12 vehicle while a child is inside.

13 As of June 2015, over twenty jurisdictions within the  
14 United States have enacted smoke-free vehicle laws to protect  
15 minors, including California, Oregon, and the county of Hawaii.

16 The purpose of this Act is to prohibit smoking in a motor  
17 vehicle when a minor is present.

18 SECTION 2. Chapter 291C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
19 amended by adding a new section to part XII to be appropriately  
20 designated and to read as follows:



1        "§291C-        Smoking in a motor vehicle in which a minor is  
2 present; prohibited.   (a) No person shall smoke in a motor  
3 vehicle in which a person under the age of eighteen is present.

4        (b) For the purposes of this section, "smoke" shall have  
5 the same meaning as provided in section 328J-1.

6        (c) Any person who violates this section shall be fined  
7 \$100."

8        SECTION 3. Section 291C-161, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
9 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

10        "(c) Every person convicted under or found in violation of  
11 section 291C-12, 291C-12.5, 291C-12.6, 291C-13, 291C-14, 291C-  
12 15, 291C-16, 291C-72, 291C-73, 291C-95, 291C-102, 291C-103,  
13 291C-104, [~~ex~~] 291C-105, or 291C-        shall be sentenced or fined  
14 in accordance with those sections."

15        SECTION 4. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
16 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
17 begun before its effective date.

18        SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
19 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.



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1 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

*Kal Rhodes*  
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*John J. ...*

JAN 14 2016



# H.B. NO. 1569

**Report Title:**

Statewide Traffic Code; Smoking; Motor Vehicle; Minors

**Description:**

Prohibits smoking in a motor vehicle in which a minor is present.

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

