



A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE

RELATING TO ABANDONED VEHICLES.

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

SECTION 1. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to clarify that trailers, including boat trailers, which are abandoned on a public street or highway are vehicles that are subject to towing and storage.

SECTION 2. Section 15-2.28, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 1990, is amended by amending the definition of "Trailer" to read as follows:

**"Sec. 15-2.28 Trailer.**

"Pole trailer" means every vehicle without motive power designed to be drawn by another vehicle and attached to the towing vehicle by means of a reach, or pole, or by being boomed or otherwise secured to the towing vehicle, and ordinarily used for transporting long or irregularly shaped loads such as pipes, poles, or structural members capable, generally, of sustaining themselves as beams between the supporting connections.

"Semi-trailer" means every vehicle with or without motive power, other than a pole trailer, designed for carrying persons or property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle, and so constructed that some part of its weight including that of its load rests upon or is carried by another vehicle.

"Trailer" means every vehicle with or without motive power, other than a pole trailer, drawn or designed to be drawn by a motor vehicle and designed to carry persons or property, and so constructed that no appreciable part of its weight rests upon the towing vehicle."

SECTION 3. Section 15-13.8, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 1990, is amended to read as follows:

**"Sec. 15-13.8 Abandoned vehicles on [~~highway~~] streets or highways.**

- (a) No person [~~shall~~] may abandon any vehicle, including a trailer, on [~~the~~] a public street or highway. The chief of police or director of [~~finance~~] customer services is authorized to remove or cause to be removed [~~any such~~] the abandoned vehicle from the street or highway, and the [~~registered owner of~~] person abandoning such vehicle shall be liable, upon conviction for a violation under subsection (b) of this section, for all reasonable expenses incurred by the



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city due to such removal. Leaving vehicles unattended for more than 24 hours ~~[shall constitute]~~ constitutes abandonment within the meaning of this section.

- (b) ~~[Whoever]~~ A person who violates any provision of this section ~~[shall be]~~ is subject to a fine ~~[as provided for under HRS Section 290-45]~~ of not less than \$150 nor more than \$500."

SECTION 4. Section 15-13.9, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 1990 ("Authority to store vehicles"), as amended by Ordinances 19-19, 19-23, and 19-29 is further amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

- "(a) Officers and employees of the Honolulu police department and department of customer services are authorized to remove vehicles or cause them to be removed from a street, highway, or pedestrian mall to a storage area or other place of safety under any of the following circumstances:
- (1) When any vehicle is left unattended upon any bridge or elevated structure, viaduct, causeway, or left unattended in any tube or tunnel, where such vehicle constitutes an obstruction to traffic;
  - (2) When any vehicle upon a highway is so disabled as to constitute an obstruction to traffic and the person or persons in charge of the vehicle request the removal of the vehicle or are by reason of physical injury incapacitated to such an extent as to be unable to provide for the vehicle's custody or removal;
  - (3) When any vehicle is left unattended upon a street and is parked illegally so as to constitute a definite hazard or obstruction to the normal movement of traffic;
  - (4) When any vehicle is left unattended or parked in a tow zone during the time of restricted parking during the morning peak traffic hours designated by official signs specifying the hours of restricted parking every day, except Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays on the streets or portions thereof described in Schedule XVII;\*
  - (5) When any vehicle is left unattended or parked in a tow zone during the time of restricted parking during the afternoon peak traffic hours designated by official signs specifying the hours of restricted parking every day, except Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays on the streets or portions thereof described in Schedule XVIII;\*



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- (6) When any vehicle is left unattended or parked in a tow zone during the time of restricted parking during the morning and/or afternoon peak traffic hours designated by official signs specifying the hours of restricted parking every day, except Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays on the streets or portions thereof described in Schedule XIX;\*
- (7) When any vehicle is left unattended or parked in a tow zone at all hours of any day on the streets or portions thereof described in Schedule XX;\*
- (8) When any vehicle is left unattended or parked in a tow zone during the time of restricted parking designated by official signs specifying those times of restricted parking on the streets or portions thereof described in Schedule XXI;\*
- (9) When any vehicle is left unattended or parked upon a street and is parked in front of a public or private driveway so as to constitute an obstruction to vehicular traffic using or attempting to use such driveway for purposes of egress or ingress;
- (10) When any vehicle is left unattended on a street, or portion thereof, so as to interfere with or impede construction, demolition, repair, and/or maintenance work being done on, adjacent to, above or below the street, provided a permit has been issued for the work by the director of transportation services, and adequate regulatory signs are posted designating the time of the prohibition;
- (11) When any vehicle is left unattended upon any street within 10 feet of a fire hydrant;
- (12) When any vehicle is left unattended upon any street within four feet of either side of a public or private driveway;
- (13) When any vehicle is left unattended or parked in a crosswalk, or within 20 feet of a crosswalk at an intersection, or within 20 feet upon the approach to any midblock crosswalk;
- (14) When any vehicle is left unattended at any time on the roadway portion of any freeway; or when any vehicle, except an authorized emergency vehicle or highway maintenance or construction equipment, is left unattended on the median, shoulder, or any other portion, other than the roadway portion, of any freeway for more than four hours;



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- (15) When any bus, truck, truck-trailer, trailer, van, house trailer, or any vehicle used for commercial purposes whose gross vehicle weight is 10,000 pounds or more, except vehicles of the public utilities and construction equipment while engaged in repair or construction work, or vehicles actually loading or unloading goods, wares or merchandise, is parked on any public street for more than four consecutive hours;
- (16) When any vehicle is left unattended in a transit or an express bus lane;
- (17) When any vehicle is left unattended upon any bicycle lane or bicycle path;
- (18) When any vehicle is left unattended or parked in violation of the pedestrian mall provisions of Article 25;
- (19) When any vehicle is left unattended or parked in an official bus stop as described in Schedule XXV;\*
- (20) When any vehicle is parked, stopped or left standing in violation of Section 15-14.1(a)(21) to (a)(26);
- (21) When any vehicle is left unattended or parked on any public street, road, or highway, and the vehicle has any one or more of the following:
  - (A) No valid vehicle registration emblem or an expired vehicle registration emblem;
  - (B) No valid sticker affixed certifying a certificate of inspection as required in HRS Section 286-26 or an expired certificate of inspection sticker; or
  - (C) No valid license plates.

For purposes of this paragraph: "Public street, roadway, or highway" includes the entire width, including berm or shoulder, of every road, alley, street, way, lane, trail, highway, bikeway, or bridge when any part thereof is open for use by the public;
- (22) When a vehicle is parked in a restrictive parking zone in violation of Article 29 of this chapter;
- (23) When a vehicle is parked in a reserved car-sharing on-street parking stall without a valid and current reserved car-sharing on-street parking stall sticker in accordance With Section 15-28.1(g);



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- (24) When a vehicle is parked in a loading zone or an officially designated bus stop without a valid and current decal or other approved device permitting parking in loading zones and official bus stops in accordance with Section 15-15.5; ~~and~~
- (25) When a shared micromobility vehicle is parked in a manner in violation of any provision of Section 15-.5[.]; ~~and~~
- (26) When any vehicle, including a trailer, is left unattended on a public street or highway for more than 24 hours.

SECTION 5. Section 15-13.10, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 1990, is amended to read as follows:

**"Sec. 15-13.10. Authority to dispose of unclaimed vehicles.**

- (a) The director of customer services is authorized and empowered to dispose of vehicles, including trailers, which have been taken into custody by the chief of police or director of customer services or their authorized subordinates as prescribed in Section 15-13.8, 15-13.9, or ~~[Section]~~ 15-13.15. Such vehicle may be disposed of in accordance with HRS Section 290-10.
- (b) In the event that no bid is received, the director of customer services shall offer such vehicle to the division of automotive equipment services of the city ~~[and-county]~~ for its use or for salvage; and in the event said division rejects such offer, the director of customer services shall dispose of such vehicle at the expense of the city ~~[and-county]~~."

SECTION 6. 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 bracketed material, or the underscoring.



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SECTION 7. This ordinance takes effect upon its approval.

INTRODUCED BY:

Brandon Elefante

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DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

December 28, 2020  
Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Deputy Corporation Counsel  
**DUANE W.H. PANG**

APPROVED this 30th day of March, 2021.

Rick Blangiardi, Mayor  
City and County of Honolulu

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII  
CERTIFICATE

ORDINANCE 21-9

BILL 97 (2020), CD1, FD1

Introduced: 12/28/20 By: BRANDON ELEFANTE Committee: TRANSPORTATION,  
SUSTAINABILITY AND HEALTH  
(TSH)

Title: RELATING TO ABANDONED VEHICLES.

Voting Legend: \* = Aye w/Reservations

12/28/20	INTRO	Introduced.
01/02/21		NOTE: Councilmembers Cordero, Kia'aina, Say, Tulba and Tupola took office on Saturday, January 2, 2021.  CC-3(21) Waters – Standing Committee assignments. CC-4(21) Waters - Re-referral of Bills, Resolutions and communications.
01/27/21	CCL	Passed first reading.  9 AYES: CORDERO, ELEFANTE, FUKUNAGA, KIA'AINA, SAY, TSUNEYOSHI, TULBA, TUPOLA, WATERS
02/02/21	TSH	Reported out for passage on second reading and scheduling of a public hearing  CR-19(21)  4 AYES: CORDERO, ELEFANTE, KIA'AINA, TULBA
02/05/21	PUBLISH	Public hearing notice published in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser.
02/17/21	CCL/PH	Committee report adopted. Bill passed second reading, public hearing closed and referred to committee.  8 AYES: CORDERO, ELEFANTE, FUKUNAGA, KIA'AINA, SAY, TULBA, TUPOLA, WATERS  1 ABSENT: TSUNEYOSHI
02/24/21	PUBLISH	Second reading notice published in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser.
02/25/21	TSH	Reported out for passage on third reading as amended in CD1 form.  CR-58(21)  4 AYES: CORDERO, ELEFANTE, KIA'AINA, TULBA
03/17/21	CCL	Amended to handcarried FD1.  OCS2021-0251/3/17/2021 12:29 PM  9 AYES: CORDERO, ELEFANTE, FUKUNAGA, KIA'AINA, SAY, TSUNEYOSHI, TULBA, TUPOLA, WATERS
03/17/21	CCL	Passed third reading.  9 AYES: CORDERO, ELEFANTE, FUKUNAGA, KIA'AINA, SAY, TSUNEYOSHI, TULBA, TUPOLA, WATERS

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