

**STATEMENT OF THE AMERICAN CAR RENTAL ASSOCIATION
BEFORE THE
HAWAII HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE**

OPPOSITION TO H.B. 1539

February 28, 2024

Chairman Nakashima and Members of the House Consumer Protection and Commerce Committee -- The American Car Rental Association (ACRA) respectfully offers this testimony in **opposition** to H.B. 1539. H.B. 1539 would impose a discriminatory minimum financial responsibility requirement on U-drive companies in Hawaii alone. We ask that the committee reject this measure.

ACRA is the national representative for over 98% of our nation's car rental industry. ACRA's membership is comprised of over 300 car rental companies, including all of the brands you would recognize such as Alamo, Avis, Budget, Dollar, Enterprise, Fox, Hertz, National, Sixt and Thrifty. ACRA members also include many system licensees and franchisees, mid-size, regional and independent car rental companies as well as smaller operators. ACRA members have over 2.1 million registered vehicles in service in the United States, with fleets ranging in size from one million cars to ten cars and employ over 160,000 workers at rental locations in every county and state across the nation.

H.B. 1539 would, for reasons that have not been articulated – increase the state minimum financial responsibility requirements for U-drive vehicles in Hawaii to four times what is required for a personal vehicle – or for any other commercial vehicle operating in the state. Such provisions are discriminatory against U-drive companies, are not supported by any data that damages related to accidents involving U-drive vehicles are most costly than those involving personal vehicles, and are a fairly blatant effort to

legislatively create “deep pockets” for personal injury litigation at the behest of certain portions of the legal profession in Hawaii.

For the reasons above, ACRA respectfully **opposes** H.B. 1539 and asks the committee to reject this measure.

If ACRA’s statement has given rise to questions, please contact Gregory M. Scott, ACRA’s Government Relations Advisor, at 202-297-5123 or gscott@merevir.com. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.