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IN REPLY REFER TO:

**LATE TESTIMONY**

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

January 28, 2008

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
HOUSE BILL NO. 2491, RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.  
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

The Department of Transportation (DOT) supports the intent of this bill. In fact, during last year's legislative session, the DOT proposed H.B. No. 1424, Relating to Transportation, and worked with this Committee on H.B. No. 70, Relating to Transportation. Both of these bills dealt with public-private partnership (PPP) agreements for toll roads.

Currently, Hawaii law does not authorize public tolls or PPP toll concessions on State highways. We believe that this is the first obstacle that needs to be overcome. Accordingly, the DOT supports enabling legislation that will specifically authorize tolls and PPP toll concessions on State highways. For this reason, we strongly recommend that this Committee seriously consider H.B. No. 70, H.D.3.

Moreover, the "best practices" prescribed in this bill are already being implemented and adhered to by the DOT through existing state and federal requirements. These "best practices" have also been incorporated in H.B. No. 70, H.D.3. Therefore, while we support the intent of this bill, we feel that the bill is not necessary.

**LATE TESTIMONY**

Testimony of  
**DICK POIRIER, CHAIR**  
**MILILANI/WAIPIO/MELEMANU**  
**NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 25**  
before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON**  
**TRANSPORTATION**  
**HB 2491 – RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION**  
held on  
**January 28, 2008**  
at  
**9:00 a.m.**

Chair Souki and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Neighborhood Board No. 25, I want to express our strong support for HB 2491.

The purpose of HB 2491 is to declare and establish a state policy regarding public/private partnerships.

We believe that the growing lack of public resources either to repair existing or construct additions to our State's regional transportation infrastructure will necessitate the possibility of having to rely more on the private sector in meeting our State transportation needs.

We further believe that HB 2491 is a necessary to assure that State interests are preserved by mandating due diligence and the incorporation of accepted best practices in evaluating and negotiating future public/private agreements to construct, operate or maintain State transportation facilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.