

# Lahaina Bypass.com

*Let's get it built!*

January 25, 2008

Chair: Speaker Joe Souki  
Vice Chair: Representative Scott Nishimoto  
House of Representatives  
Transportation Committee

**LATE TESTIMONY**

**RE: HB 2531**

To: Chair: Representative Joe Souki; Vice Chair Representative Scott Nishimoto & Transportation Committee Members

We **support HB 2531** scheduled to be heard on 1/28/08 at 9:00 am.

Lahaina Bypass Now is a non-profit community organization dedicated to the development of a regional transportation system for West Maui. We work in a pro-active approach with the community, public and elected officials, businesses and the visitor industry to create positive solutions to transportation challenges.

A good transportation system provides choices for people on a day-to-day basis and in a crisis. West Maui as well as West Kauai, Waianai and Kealahou have one major access road – ie one choice – which, when closed due to a fire, auto accident, ocean incident etc. – is reduced to **no access** and therefore **no choice**.

Residents of West Maui are extremely concerned for their families' safety during closures of the road. During 2007, the Honoapi'ilani Highway connecting Lahaina to the rest of Maui was closed approx. 6 times for protracted periods.

Road closures also threaten Maui's major economic engine – the West Maui Visitor Industry.

HB 2531 would provide funds to develop a West Maui Transportation Access Plan with the expertise of a transportation consultant, knowledgeable officials and community groups. This plan would be applicable statewide in other isolated communities. This is long overdue. We urge your **support for HB 2531**.

Sincerely,  
Theo Morrison  
Executive Director

505 Front Street, Suite 202 · Lahaina, HI 96761  
Telephone: 808-667-2516, Fax: 808-661-2058  
[www.lahainabypassnow.com](http://www.lahainabypassnow.com)

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**nishimoto2-Bryce**

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**From:** Peter Grieve [pmgrieve@tmgassociates.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 26, 2008 5:51 PM  
**To:** TRNtestimony  
**Cc:** Tish Mercado  
**Subject:** Bill HB 2531

**LATE TESTIMONY**

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to add my voice in support of Bill HB 2531.

As a resident on the west side of Maui for almost ten years, we have experienced numerous difficulties as a result of the single road access that exists between Kahului and Lahaina. I understand the purpose of this bill is to provide funding to examine alternatives for transportation access from Lahaina to the east side of the island. Frankly, I believe this should have a higher priority than the Lahaina by-pass which, while beneficial, will not provide anywhere near the benefit to west side residents of an alternative access to the other side.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Peter M. Grieve**  
138 Kualapa Place  
Lahaina, HI 96761  
Phone: 808-661-9719  
Fax: 614-559-0563  
Mobile: 808-870-6476

nishimoto2-Bryce

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**From:** GLavenson@aol.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 27, 2008 6:50 PM  
**To:** TRNtestimony  
**Subject:** HB 2531

**LATE TESTIMONY**



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Chair: Speaker Joe Souki  
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**RE: HB 2531**

**To:** Chair: Representative Joe Souki; Vice Chair Representative Scott Nishimoto & Transportation Committee Members

As a member of the Board of Directors of Maui Unite, I have great concern regarding **HB 2531** scheduled to be heard on 1/28/08 at 9:00 am. There are two primary areas of concern.

1. The first concern is that it is Lahaina ByPass Now (LBN), an organization that portends to be "grass roots" but is totally funded and managed by Maui Land and Pine (ML&P), that has been a primary proponent of the bill and who has striven to move our beautiful shoreline drive in West Maui that gives access to the public to the shore to a mauka site. Their purpose is to enhance their developments and allow more thereof. Since the highway would still have 2 lanes and there would be more development, that will not help any traffic problems that come up, but only benefit the land owners and developers.

2. The other concern is that the bill allows obtaining and empowering a traffic consultant without regard to the Hawaiian Procedural Code. LBN, ML&P, and the Department of Transportation have been using a single, paid traffic consultant here in West Maui who is from the mainland and who is well known for being hired by developers to testify on their behalf.

We therefore, strongly recommend against passage of HB 2531.

Sincerely:

George S. Lavenson, Jr., M.D.  
50 Puu Anoano #2801  
Lahaina, HI 96761  
808-667-9300

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Start the year off right. Easy ways to stay in shape in the new year.

1/28/2008

nishimoto2-Bryce

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**Sent:** Sunday, January 27, 2008 1:15 PM  
**To:** TRNtestimony  
**Cc:** Tish Mercado  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT HB2531

**LATE TESTIMONY**

Aloha State Transportation Committee members:

Please accept this email as my Testimony in Support of HB2531. I have been serving the West Maui Community as a member of the Board of Directors of the West Maui Taxpayers Association for 21 years. Also, in that capacity and as a resident of West Maui for the past 26 years serving as a member of nearly every transportation committee formed to study this issue for the past 26 years, I am very informed of our urgent need for a temporary access plan to expedite workable solutions as soon as possible. While some temporary suggestions and recommendations have been brought up in the past, it seems that they have all encountered roadblocks effectively shutting effective solutions down. West Maui's isolation and traffic gridlock is wholly unacceptable for a myriad of reasons and places over 50,000 residents and visitors at unacceptable levels of risk daily. Thank you for your dedication to the safety of our community by advancing this bill for necessary approvals as soon as practicably possible. Time is of the Essence.

Warm Regards,  
Joseph D. Pluta  
1010 Front Street D208  
Lahaina, HI 96761  
(808) 283-4533 Cell direct

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**From:** Betsy Schusser [ews@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 27, 2008 9:10 AM  
**To:** TRNtestimony  
**Subject:** Support HB 2531

**LATE TESTIMONY**

Please support HB2531. West Maui is frequently cut off from essential services due to the problems on our inadequate single access road. Nowhere else in Hawaii has so many people effected by our frequent road closure. Employees can't get to work, tourists miss flights, and people are stranded in autos for hours. This situation is horrendous!

Thanks, Betsy Schusser, MD

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