

LATE TESTIMONY

January 27, 2008

Chair: Senator Kalani English
Vice Chair: Senator Mike Gabbard
Senate
Transportation and International Affairs Committee

RE: SB 2156

To: Chair Senator Kalani English; Vice Chair Senator Mike Gabbard
& Transportation Committee Members

As a member of the Board of Directors of Maui Unite, I have great concern regarding **SB 2156** 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:

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