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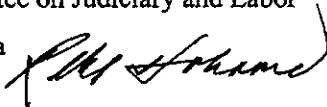
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February 21, 2008

TO: Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

FROM: G. Riki Hokama
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 22, 2008; TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO
SB 2900, SD1, RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to establish that any county has the power to enforce laws and rules applicable to the use of public streets or highways whose ownership is in dispute between the State and the county and also ensure that the general public retains the right to use those roads to access the shoreline and other public recreational areas.

I oppose this measure for the following reasons:

1. The express language of the bill requires the counties to enforce State traffic laws on government-owned roadways. The State should use its enforcement personnel, rather than place the responsibility on the counties.
2. The State should bear the cost, not the counties, of maintaining these roadways of which title is still disputed between the State and counties.

For the foregoing reasons, I oppose this measure.

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