



February 9, 2009

Representative Ken Ito, Chair  
Committee on Water, Land & Ocean Resources  
Conference Room 325  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

LATE TESTIMONY

Representative Ito:

Subject: **House Bill No. HB 865 Relating to Transportation**

My name is Jim Tollefson, President of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii. The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii works on behalf of its members and the entire business community to:

- Improve the state's economic climate
- Help businesses thrive

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii supports the need for better planning and funding of proposed infrastructure in the State.

H.B. 865 proposes to amend Chapter 179 HRS to require that the statewide transportation plan include a provision to comply with county transportation-related plans, county general plans, and all community, development, or community development plans adopted pursuant to the county general plan.

The legislation is intended to essentially require the State to follow the lead of the Counties in planning and prioritizing where infrastructure should be provided to accommodate the planned growth in each county. The State and County planning process appears to be occurring independent of one another. This bill will provide better coordination between the State and County for planned transportation infrastructure.

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii strongly supports H.B. 865.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views with you.