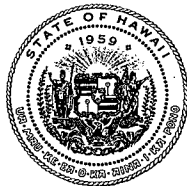


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IN REPLY REFER TO:

February 18, 2009

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SENATE BILL NO. 150

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, INTERNATIONAL AND  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Senate Bill 150 directs the Department of Transportation to conduct a feasibility study on the construction of sound barriers along the H-1 freeway to reduce traffic noise problems in adjacent buildings and communities.

**The Department opposes this bill because it is not necessary at this time.**

The Department is currently working with the University of Hawaii, Manoa to update our statewide noise program guidelines. These guidelines assist in determining the need for constructing sound barriers along the H-1 freeway. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will not provide funding for noise mitigation projects until the guidelines are updated and approved by FHWA.

The first draft of the noise program guidelines is tentatively scheduled for December 2009. The final guidelines are scheduled for completion and FHWA approval by end of 2010.