

LATE TESTIMONY

TO: Committee on Transportation

DATE: Tuesday, February 17, 2009

FROM: Natalie Iwasa
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HEARING: 9 a.m. Wednesday, February 18, 2009

SUBJECT: Support of HB 1445 - Highways; Shared Lane Markings

Aloha Chair Souki, Vice Chair Awana and Representatives,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HB 1445 - Highways; Shared Lane Markings. This bill will allow the state to use shared lane markings as a form of traffic control and will help make Hawaii a safer place for bicyclists. There is widespread support for bicycle safety in Hawaii as evidenced by the following:

- 70% of respondents to a 2002 Bike Plan Hawaii User Survey indicated they would support changes to make Hawaii more "bicycle friendly;"
- 77% of voters on Oahu supported Charter Amendment 8 in November 2006 asking the city to make Honolulu a pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly city; and
- 29 out of 33 Oahu Neighborhood Boards, the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization, City and County of Honolulu, and County of Kauai have either adopted or supported the Bicycle Safety Resolution.

According to the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices "Technical Committee Recommendation" as revised January 18, 2007, shared use lane markings clarify the position bicyclists should take on the road, reduce the incidence of wrong-way bicycling and remind motorists that bicyclists may be present.

Thank you for your consideration.