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SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Senator J. Kalani English, Chair
Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

DATE: Wednesday, February 02, 2011
TIME: 1:15 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Director of the Department of Transportation, Gubernatorial Nominee, GLENN M. OKIMOTO, for a term to expire December 1, 2014.

The Hawaii Bicycling League **supports** the nomination of Glenn M. Okimoto as Director of DOT. Mr. Okimoto has the experience and background to understand how to make things work in government.

The challenge for Mr. Okimoto is to work with stakeholders, such as Hawaii Bicycling League, to transform Hawaii from potential car gridlock to potential bicycling and walking capitol of the world.

- 65% of Hawaii commuters drive alone
- 280,000 people on Oahu own bicycles; most of them WANT to bike, but most of them fear for their safety
- Hawaii has the best natural infrastructure (our climate and flat lowlands) for cycling and walking; the built environment also needs to support people-powered movement for health, recreation, transportation, and environment
- If DOT can support bicycling and walking with infrastructure our people will be healthier, enjoy life more, save money, and protect the environment – all by simply biking to work or for short trips. The bicycle is an efficient exercise machine.

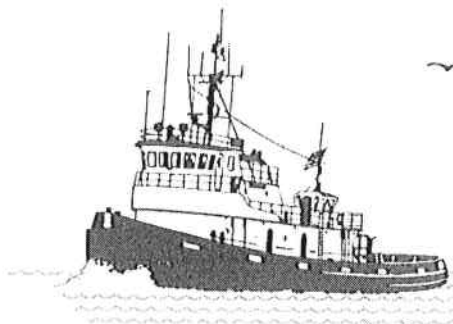
Let's make the Leeward Bike Path a reality soon!

Let's make the state bicycle/pedestrian coordinator a great position where an in-house advocate can work with outside advocates to truly transform our roads.

Let's hire a Safe Routes to School Coordinator at full-time soon, as intended.

Let's fulfill Kamehameha's Law of the Splintered Paddle: "Everyone has the right to be safe on Hawaii's roads. Mamalahoe Kanawai, Kamehameha's Law of the Splintered Paddle 1797, Hawaii state constitution 1978.

Ride Aloha! Chad Taniguchi, executive director cell 255 8271 chad@hbl.org



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SAUSE BROS., INC.

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TESTIMONY OF DOUGLAS WON
VICE PRESIDENT, SAUSE BROS., INC.
ON FEBRUARY 2, 2011
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS
IN REGARDS TO GM516 – CONSIDERATION OF GLENN OKIMOTO FOR
DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Chair English and committee members, I am Douglas Won of Sause Bros., Inc., and I am offering testimony in support of Governor's Message 516, to consider Dr. Glenn Okimoto for the position of Director of the Department of Transportation.

Dr. Okimoto's wealth of experience in working with the state government, most notably his tenure with the airports and harbors, makes him an ideal candidate for this position especially with the Harbors Modernization Plan and the Airports Modernization Plan upon us.

These two projects represent billions of dollars to the state, and having been directly involved in the management of both of these divisions ensures that Dr. Okimoto will have a quick ramp up to the issues at hand, and will also have insight to the nuances of the innerworkings of the department.

Dr. Okimoto has always been open to meet and has never avoided addressing difficult subjects with me. He is knowledgeable, honest and a quick study, and I look forward to working with him as the next Director of the Department of Transportation.

Douglas Won



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TO: Members of the Committee on Transportation and International Affairs

FROM: Natalie Iwasa
aka Bike Mom
Member Hawaii Safe Routes to School Hui
League Cycling Instructor (certified by the League of American Bicyclists)
Honolulu, HI 96825
808-395-3233

REGULAR
MEETING: 1:15 p.m. Wednesday, February 2, 2011

SUBJECT: GM 516 Confirmation of Glenn M. Okimoto, Director of the Department of Transportation

Aloha Chair and Senators,

Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony on the confirmation of Glenn Okimoto as Director of the Department of Transportation (DOT). During the past five years, I've worked with various members of the DOT, including former director Brennon Morioka. Some of the projects that have been implemented or are in progress are:

- Maintenance/cleaning of shoulders on state roadways (George Abcede);
- Various Safe Routes to School grants and projects (Alvin Takeshita and Laura Manuel);
- Realignment of the guard rail on Kalaniana'ole Hwy. in Hawaii Kai; and
- Reviewing the temporary traffic control plan for the Keahole right turn lane project on Kalaniana'ole Hwy. (Tammy Mori and Bruce Kawakami).

It is important to note the role the governor and lieutenant governor play with respect to these projects and other initiatives Mr. Okimoto and his staff would like to implement. One of the directives Mr. Okimoto must follow is the implementation of a Complete Streets policy at the state level. This can only be accomplished with the support of the governor and lieutenant governor.

A significant budget deficit is looming over the next two years. With that in mind, I offer the following no-cost to low-cost bicycle activities that the state can do to support the director and DOT to improve the environment for bicyclists and pedestrians alike:

- Have a contest among the state departments to see which department can have the highest percentage of employees ride their bikes to work on Bike to Work Day, May 20;

- Implement a program whereby all state transportation planners and engineers take a bike ride around downtown, walk through several types of intersections and ride the city bus;
- Participate in Farrington High School's Green Machines Event tentatively set for lunchtime on May 20;
- Maintain sensor loops so traffic signals are easily triggered by bicyclists;
- Promote Safe Routes to School (SRTS) at neighborhood board and other community meetings;
- Publish results of SRTS grants that have been given to state agencies such as the Department of Education;
- Promote a bike education event at the October Children and Youth Day and other similar events;
- Include bike and pedestrian safety tips or events on the governor's monthly reports to neighborhood boards (sample tips follow);
- Start a share-a-bike program for state workers so they can ride bikes to meetings in town or do their errands at lunch;
- Ask construction supervisors to remind contractors to place temporary construction signs in a manner that allows the most room for bicyclists to pass safely;
- Include a calendar for bike events on the state DOT's website;
- Update the DOT's website to include the shoulder cleaning and sweeping schedule for all state roadways;
- Support state employees who ride bike to work by providing them with the monthly commuter benefit; and
- Provide bike racks at all state parks and buildings.

Tips or quotes that can be included in the governor's (and senators') newsletters include:

- "Cyclists fare best when they act and are treated as drivers of vehicles," John Forester, author of "Effective Cycling" and developer of the Effective Cycling education program;

- Bikes may use full lane;
- Helmets are required by children under the age of 16;
- Same roads, same rules, same rights;
- The right side is the *right* side;
- Remember the ABC hand (or quick) check – air, brakes, chain, handlebars (or quick releases) and overall check – before beginning a ride;
- May is Bike Month;
- Bikes may use full lane;
- May 17, 2011, Bike to School Day;
- May 18, 2011, Ride of Silence;
- May 20, 2011, Bike to Work Day;
- July 4, 2011, keiki bike decorating contest and parade at Maunalua Bay;
- Check with Hawaii Bicycling League for dates and locations of BikeEd classes;
- 2 wheels 4 wheels 1 road 4 everyone;
- If you can't see my rear view mirror, I can't see you;
- Move with Aloha (University of Hawaii);
- Be visible when biking or jogging, wear reflective material; and
- Pedaling toward a bicycle-safe Hawaii.

I look forward to working with Mr. Okimoto and his staff to improve the environment for bicyclists and pedestrians.