



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 25, 2013  
3:30 pm  
State Capitol, Room 308

**H.B. 1080 H.D. 1  
RELATING TO BICYCLES**

House Committee on Finance

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **opposes** H.B. 1080 H.D. 1. as it is not necessary for the following reasons:

1. There are no funds available in any project to reallocate to an alternative bikeway project. Before design begins for any project, the feasibility to provide a bicycle facility is determined based on the primary objective of the project (i.e., roadway resurfacing, safety improvements, rockfall protection, drainage improvements, etc.), field investigations and an initial budget.
2. Projects obligating federal construction funds shall meet Federal Highways Administration (FHWA) requirements. If a project is not in compliance of these requirements, the project is deferred until it is eligible. The DOT selects replacement projects based on eligibility to utilize all of Hawaii's annual federal authority to avoid losing FHWA funding.
3. H.B. 1080 H.D. 1 would void the transparent process used to prioritize projects in the statewide bicycle master plans (Bike Plan Hawaii) and the Oahu bicycle master plan (Oahu Bike Plan). This would also conflict with DOT's "Complete Street" policy in considering all roadway users, to include bicyclists, pedestrians, transit riders, movers of freight, and motorists.
4. In general, DOT's various programs are under funded to meet primary program objectives. Decreasing revenues, increased project costs and stricter environmental requirements are delaying project delivery, determining more projects unfeasible, and creating a difficult situation for the DOT to meet the many needs of all roadway users. If any, the DOT needs more flexibility, not less to operate in meeting these needs.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.





**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

February 25, 2013, 3:30 P.M.

Room 308

**(Testimony is 2 pages long)**

**LATE**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1080 HD1**

Chair Luke and members of the Finance Committee:

The Blue Planet Foundation supports HB 1080 HD1, requiring the Department of Transportation to identify, fund, and establish alternative bikeway projects when establishment of bikeways on new or reconstructed roads is not practicable. We believe this bill will give the DOT proper direction in using state highway funds to install bikeways or suitable alternatives on new or existing highways and roads, or when new streets are being designed, planned, constructed, reconstructed, relocated, or rehabilitated.

Blue Planet is a local non-profit committed to ending the use of fossil fuel on Earth by making Hawaii a global leader for energy independence. Blue Planet believes the transformation to clean, indigenous, renewable sources of energy is critical to the state's economy, security and quality of life. While much of our work has been focused on renewable energy and reducing electricity use, transportation in Hawaii (cars, trucks, ships and planes) accounts for approximately two-thirds of the oil consumed. In 2011, Hawaii cars burned over 470 million gallons of gasoline. For a typical car, that's enough gasoline to cover the distance equivalent to over 21,000 round trips to the moon. Providing convenient, effective alternatives to automobile use is needed to decrease our consumption of gasoline and other fossil fuels.

Blue Planet strongly believes that incorporating bikeways into all new road construction and reconstruction will reduce automobile usage by creating an environment that encourages safe and convenient biking. In addition to VMT reduction, incorporating bikeways and other multi-use paths will reduce gasoline consumption, air pollution, traffic congestion, and improve the health and environment of the community it serves. It will also enhance existing and developing mass transportation options by providing a quick and convenient link between central transportation stations and final destinations.

Blue Planet supports HB 1080 HD1 to ensure that bikeways or suitable alternatives are incorporated into all new and reconstructed highways, roads and streets, further advancing our critical goal of reducing our state's dependence on imported fossil fuels.

In order to ensure timely incorporation of bikeways, Blue Planet respectfully asks that the bill take affect upon approval.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

## FINTestimony

**LATE**

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 25, 2013 12:51 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** rachelpfeffer@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1080 on Feb 25, 2013 15:30PM

### **HB1080**

Submitted on: 2/25/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2013 15:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachel Pfeffer	New Solutions to Old Problems	Support	No

Comments: February 25, 2012 Testimony in Support of HB 1080 I am an urban planner excited by the possibility of living in a State that takes it's responsibility of public health seriously and understands that all State departments must work synergistically to create healthy cities. Bicycles are an old mode of transportation that are enjoying a renaissance among young people in particular. However, without proper lanes to ride in; Hawaii is unsafe and behind the times. Even NYC has a huge bicycle lane system. While we are a unique state, we are not a progressive state. Injuries related to bicycles are on the rise. Approving this bill will support local residents, students and those who visit who are interested in visiting places that are aligned with effective governance, health, green transportation and decreasing our dependence on oil, coal and even electricity. And bicycle riding is fun!!

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**FINTestimony**

**LATE**

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 24, 2013 3:54 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** suzanne@photosofaloha.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1080 on Feb 25, 2013 15:30PM

**HB1080**

Submitted on: 2/24/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2013 15:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Suzanne Westerly	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Before voting on HB1080, Please grab a Bicycle and Go Biking for a couple of hours. Feels great, Yes? What a wondrous place these Hawaiian islands are - and if only one could cycle completely around them safely, now that would be Island Bliss! Other countries are far ahead of us in bike-friendliness, yet we are fortunate to live in a place on Earth where the Summer is Endless and it's (mostly) great riding weather everyday. Also, what a great Tourist Attraction for the cyclists of our world. Please help create a safe place for the growing population of cyclist's out there, and especially for those of us who WANT to bike, but are too afraid to, sadly with Very Good Reason. Mahalo and Happy Trails For All

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## FINTestimony

**LATE**

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 25, 2013 12:42 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** the-green-one@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1080 on Feb 25, 2013 15:30PM\*

### **HB1080**

Submitted on: 2/25/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2013 15:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Natalie aka Bike Mom Iwasa	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

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## FINTestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 24, 2013 9:44 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** anncinzi@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1080 on Feb 25, 2013 15:30PM

### **HB1080**

Submitted on: 2/24/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2013 15:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ann C Peterson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I encourage your support of this bill. It's beyond time that Hawaii recognize that it's not only cars that need safe transportation corridors. For too many years HODOT has ignored the 30+ percent of the population that is too poor, too young, too old, too disabled to own/drive a car -- and ignored and totally discouraged those who would rather depend on their own energy to commute . With this lack of attention, Hawaii has sadly created a transportation environment that is dependent upon motorized vehicles to make even the shortest trips. What makes this even more sad, it that, with Hawaii's generally mild climate, it could serve as a model for a "car-free" society (for a great example, look at Portland, OR who has created a livable, sustainable, and walkable community where "car is not king?.) With so much to gain, and so little to lose (honestly!), I highly encourage the passage of this long overdue and 21st Century-logically appropriate and forward-thinking bill.

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**LATE**

February 25, 2013

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(808) 330-4978

Hawaii State Legislature  
Honolulu, HI

RE: HB 1080 HD1

Dear Sirs/Madams,

I am a strong advocate of bicycling and support HB 1080 HD1.

1. I believe that the Department of Transportation has the opportunity to expand their communications with Hawaii residents outside of the Hawaii Bicycle League and other island bicycling organizations through neighborhood board meetings, schools and other community organizations. This will NOT impede their transparent process already in place, it will complement it.
2. The Department of Transportation's 'Complete Streets' project was promoted by the community organizations, not by an internal department drive to improve bicycle safety in the state. The 'Complete Streets' project was supposed to be updated to the legislature in 2010 and 2011, but, looking on the internet, it is impossible to find the updates of this report. That fact alone highlights that the DOT's transparency of their apparent progress is neither transparent nor moving forward.
3. Since the state has recently issued a goal to address childhood obesity, providing proof that the budget for an activity (bicycling) that promotes health is being allocated and used properly, would align well with that goal. DOT needs complement the prevention of child obesity by segregating bicycle expenditures to the legislature. By developing processes for reporting the bicycle projects' expenses separately from the entire budget, it ensures that funds that are allocated for bicycle lanes, repairs, etc., are actually being spent on the projects. Our keiki can be assured of safe places to bicycle, may even be able to bicycle to school and their activities, which would help fight the obesity health crisis our state faces today. <http://www.activelivingresearch.org/toolsandresources/toolsandmeasures>

Please pass HB 1080 HD1 with the very important aspect of bicycles! Your vote plays a very important role in creating a bicycle environment that can surpass others who boast of their bike friendly communities! Thank you for your time and attention to my letter.

Sincerely,

*Christine M. Burton*

Christine M. Burton



## FINTestimony

**LATE**

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 24, 2013 5:56 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** lottj001@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1080 on Feb 25, 2013 15:30PM

### **HB1080**

Submitted on: 2/24/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2013 15:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
JONATHAN LOTT	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this measure. The bicycle came before the automobile and macadam paving was originally promoted by bicyclists of the League of American Wheelmen. Then as now, generally, what will benefit cyclists for transportation will benefit all modes of transportation, especially if the big picture thinking is Complete Streets-based. There are so many reasons Hawaii should lead the nation in promoting sane and sustainable transportation by good old human power wherever possible! Let's think ahead by looking back, to a greener, healthier, more welcoming future. It's a no-brainer.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 25, 2013 7:08 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** pdunn@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1080 on Feb 25, 2013 15:30PM

### **HB1080**

Submitted on: 2/25/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2013 15:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Patricia N Dunn	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As the current President of the Hawaii Bicycling League Board of Directors and as a cyclist, I strongly support HB1080. There must be a paradigm shift in which we no longer depend on fossil fuels to support our transportation options. City after city and State after State has recognized the need to support alternative transportation options. Cycling provides that option and promotes a healthier community. We need an infrastructure that will allow people to feel safe commuting by bicycle. In addition, I would strongly urge DOT to hire a state bicycle and pedestrian coordinator. The position has been vacant for far too long.

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**LATE**

HB 1080

Committee Members:

I strongly support this bill. Hawai'i must improve its alternative transportation mode infrastructure if it ever hopes to control congestion and reduce our dependence on fossil fuel. Hawai'i DOT simply must change its way of thinking and designing projects. DOTs across the country have done so with great success. Please help push our DOT into this century by passing this bill.

Crysttal Steiner

**LATE**

**HB1080**

Submitted on: 2/25/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2013 15:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dottie Sunio	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill in order to provide safer conditions for bicycles in our state. We live in the best state to cycle but it has the worse conditions and the most cyclists being hit by cars. Please make our roads safe for everyone

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