

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

**LATE**



Testimony of  
GLENN M. OKIMOTO  
DIRECTOR

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

February 21, 2013  
1:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 325

**H.B. 2350  
RELATING TO HIGHWAY SAFETY**

House Committee on Judiciary

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The Department of Transportation **supports** this Administration bill, which clarifies existing law so that we meet federal requirements to qualify for federal highway safety funding under Chapter 23, United States Code, Section 154 of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act (MAP-21).

To qualify, states must enact and enforce a law that prohibits the possession of any open alcoholic beverage container, and the consumption of any alcoholic beverage in the passenger area of any motor vehicle located on a public highway, or the right-of-way of a public highway in the State.

Presently, there are only thirteen states and the District of Columbia that qualify for this grant. The allocation of federal funds totals over \$67 million that we are unable to qualify at this time.

By passing this bill, Hawaii would then be eligible to receive these federal funds that would be used for the enforcement of this law which will result in saving lives on our highways.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.