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TESTIMONY OF KIRK CALDWELL, MAYOR
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
BEFORE THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Thursday, February 21, 2013, 9:00 a.m., Conference Room 211

**SENATE BILL 479 SD1, "RELATING TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF A
METROPOLITAN ORGANIZATION"**

Position: Support

To: The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

The City & County of Honolulu supports Senate Bill 479 SD1, "Relating to the Membership of a Metropolitan Planning Organization".

The purpose of this bill is to add the Executive Director of the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transit (HART) to the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) policy committee. The Policy Committee is the "heart" of the OMPO planning process. It determines the direction of the OMPO effort, considers and approves transportation planning issues, and makes the final approval for OMPO matters.

In the coming years, Honolulu's mass transit system will be an integral component of our county's transportation infrastructure. As such, the Executive Director of HART will have an important role in contributing to the planning and implementation of the OMPO's major programs, which include the Oahu Regional Transportation Plan (ORTP), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and Overall Work Program (OWP).

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this bill. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 768-4141.