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April 11, 2014

TO: Honorable J. Kalani English, Chair
Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs
Honorable Will Espero, Chair
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

FROM: **Robert Carroll** *Robert Carroll*
Council Vice Chair

DATE: Monday, April 14, 2014

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF HCR 242, URGING THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI TO TAKE NECESSARY STEPS TO ADOPT AND ACCEPT JURISDICTION FOR THE NAHIKU BRIDGE IN THE HANA DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is URGING THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI TO MAKE NECESSARY STEPS TO ADOPT AND ACCEPT JURISDICTION FOR THE NAHIKU BRIDGE IN THE HANA DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. The Nahiku Bridge has the distinction of being one of the last old wooden bridges within the State of Hawaii. Accordingly, the bridge requires attention and regular maintenance to ensure access to the coast for the community of Nahiku. The County of Maui would be the appropriate agency to provide an immediate response in the event the bridge requires repairs, preservation and conservation.
2. The Nahiku Bridge is a life line for the community. The bridge provides access to the Nahiku landing which is the gateway to the coastline for local fisherman and park which is the cultural center of the community, where family gatherings are held to celebrate life in Nahiku. It is also important to note that the Nahiku Bridge is also vital to tourism in the East Maui district, because many visitors will make their way to the coast via the bridge.
3. Permitting the County of Maui to accept jurisdiction of the Nahiku Bridge is imperative, especially during in climate weather. Heavy rains often impact the East Maui District, therefore a quick response to maintaining the quality, safety and access will strongly benefit the community.

For the foregoing reasons, I support this measure.

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