



March 3, 2015

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
ON SB 346 RELATING TO THE STATEWIDE TRAFFIC CODE**

Thank you Chair Nishihara and committee members. I am Gareth Sakakida, Managing Director of the Hawaii Transportation Association (HTA) with over 400 transportation related members throughout the state of Hawaii.

Hawaii Transportation Association opposes this bill.

Any vehicle that can maintain the legal speed limit should be allowed to do so.

Commercial vehicles service people everywhere so must be able to travel everywhere.

This proposal permits making left turns, but drivers are taught to get into a needed lane as early as possible to prevent the need for sudden maneuvers or stopping and waiting because traffic in the needed lane will not permit the truck to change lanes.

We need to be allowed to access those left lanes in advance of the turn, but at what point does it become permissible? Drivers and police officers need to know exactly where that point is to remain legal.

Furthermore, the freeway has exits that are accessed via the left lane like Aiea and Pearlridge going Westbound, and heading toward Waianae when the zipper lane is deployed, and to Mililani going Eastbound. We are not sure that the allowed maneuver of a "left turn" qualifies for accessing these exit lanes, but we do need them to be accessible.

Commercial motor vehicles pay more taxes and fees than other vehicles and should not be offered less capacity on the roads and highways.

Thank you.