

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 02/28/2017
Time: 11:00 AM
Location: 308
Committee: House Finance

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

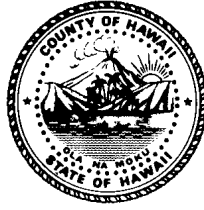
Title of Bill: HB 0491 RELATING TO SIDEWALKS.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes and funds a two-year pilot school sidewalk maintenance and repair program that requires counties to maintain and repair sidewalks in school zones or other areas of significant school related pedestrian traffic. Requires each county to report on the status of the pilot program.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (DOE) fully supports bill HB 0491. The DOE agrees that such a policy would make it safer for students, staff, and the community when walking to and from school. If the areas around schools were truly walkable it would provide an alternative for some who currently drive their children to school. This could reduce vehicular traffic around the school and further increase the safety of our students.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on HB 0491.



Harry Kim
Mayor

Wil Okabe
Managing Director

Frank J. De Marco, P.E.
Director

Allan G. Simeon, P.E.
Deputy Director

County of Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Aupuni Center
101 Pauahi Street, Suite 7 · Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-4224
(808) 961-8321 · Fax (808) 961-8630
public_works@hawaiicounty.gov

February 27, 2017

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
And Members of the Committee on Finance

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, February 28, 2017
TIME: 11:00 A.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 308
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

SUBJECT: HB NO. 491 REGARDING SCHOOL ZONE SIDEWALKS

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen
And Members of the Committee on Finance

Generally, we support of the subject Bill's intent. However, the Bill's espoused "many public benefits," avoids the reality that parents will continue to drive their children to school for reasons other than the lack of adequate sidewalks, described in part as follows:

- Parents' concerned with their children's safety while walking through unsafe neighborhoods/streets (e.g., high crime areas, high traffic areas, streets with dilapidated/unsafe structures that tend to attract questionable occupants/activities, etc.);
- Child's/parent's concerns with bullying/harassment while walking to and from school;
- Child's needs (e.g., hauling school related items/projects, physical and/or health related issues, etc.); and,
- Convenience (e.g., Parents' that are running behind schedule); etc.

If the Bill is truly interested in protecting a child's journey to and from school, it should also address:

- Providing adequate and safe parking at the schools for parents to: drop off and pick up their children, in addition to other school related activities;

- Improve vehicle circulation at the schools that allows parents to safely drop off and pick up their children, while concurrently maintaining safety at the school for the children (e.g., one-way traffic patterns, delivery zones, crossing guards, adequate and appropriate signage, etc.).

In order to achieve the Bill's intended purpose to provide children with adequate safety while journeying to and from school, the Counties must be provided adequate funds to implement the necessary improvements/repairs.

Sincerely,

Frank J. De Marco, P.E.
Director



Date: February 27, 2017

To: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Ty J.K Cullen, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Finance

From: Jessica Yamauchi, Executive Director, Hawai'i Public Health Institute

Re: **Support for HB 491, Relating to Sidewalks**

Hrg: February 28, 2017 at 11:00 am at Conference Room 308

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of HB 491, which would pilot a two-year program for the maintenance and repair of school sidewalks.

Created by the legislature in 2012, the Obesity Prevention Task Force is comprised of over 20 statewide organizations, and works to make recommendations to reshape Hawai'i's school, work, community, and health care environments, making healthier lifestyles obtainable for all Hawai'i residents. The Hawai'i Public Health Institute (HIPHI) convenes the Task Force and supports and promotes policy efforts to create a healthy Hawai'i.

HB 491 fast tracks the repair and maintenance of our school sidewalks. Having complete sidewalks allow all children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school safely. Many communities in Hawaii struggle with traffic congestion around schools and motor vehicle emissions polluting the environment. At the same time, children engage in less physical activity, which contributes to the prevalence of childhood obesity.

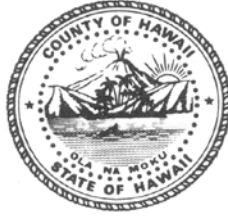
Making routes safer for children to bike and walk to school benefits the entire community and environment. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jessica Yamauchi'.

Jessica Yamauchi, MA
Chair, Obesity Prevention Task Force
Executive Director, HIPHI

MITCHELL D. ROTH
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

DALE A. ROSS
FIRST DEPUTY
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



655 KĪLAUEA AVENUE
HILO, HAWAII 96720
PH: (808) 961-0466
FAX: (808) 961-8908
(808) 934-3403
(808) 934-3503

WEST HAWAII UNIT
81-980 HALEKĪ'I ST, SUITE 150
KEALAKEKUA, HAWAII 96750
PH: (808) 322-2552
FAX: (808) 322-6584

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 491

A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SIDEWALKS

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 28, 2017, 11:00 A.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

Honorable Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice-Chair Ty J.K. Cullen and Members of the Committee on Finance. The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai'i submits the following testimony in support of House Bill No. 491.

This measure establishes and funds a two-year pilot school side walk maintenance and repair program that requires counties to maintain and repair sidewalks in school zones or other related areas of significant school related pedestrian traffic. Requires each county to report on the status of the pilot program.

The County of Hawaii: Office of the Prosecuting Attorney strongly supports House Bill No. 491. Most schools in Hawaii are built around small plantation towns with narrow streets, boardwalks and stairs. An example would be the town Pahoia. Most buildings in old Pahoia town are nearing a century. Since afterschool programs are not on school properties, children must walk about a quarter mile into main street Pahoia town in order to get to their afterschool program.

Children face adversity while walking to their afterschool programs, stores, recreation center or even get back home. Children walk on crowded path, path of disrepair and portions of paths that have not been renovated, retrofitted or repaired in decades. This causes a potential hazard for young children who walk through the town. Children with physical disabilities whom are unable to use sidewalks are forced to use the street as a means to get to their location. With the most recent fire that destroyed a large portion of Pahoia town, Children are forced to walk along the busy street and cross on a makeshift crosswalk that is staffed by community volunteers. This does not only apply to Pahoia, this common amongst schools state wide that are built around old towns like Pahoia.

Having the school side walk maintenance repair program will enable children to walk safe and comfortable manner to their afterschool programs, stores, recreation programs or home without the worry of getting hurt or impeding traffic.

The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai‘i supports the passage of House Bill No. 491. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2017 9:42 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: sharron.henry@hawaiicounty.gov
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB491 on Feb 28, 2017 11:00AM*

HB491

Submitted on: 2/27/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 28, 2017 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sharron Henry	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

TO: Members of the Committee on Finance

FROM: Natalie Iwasa
Honolulu, HI 96825
808-395-3233

HEARING: 11 a.m. Tuesday, February 28, 2017

SUBJECT: HB 491 School Sidewalk Pilot Project - **COMMENTS**

Aloha Chair and Committee Members,

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 491, which would set up a two-year pilot project to repair and maintain sidewalks within a two-mile radius of schools.

I fully support improving sidewalks for pedestrians, especially around schools. However, rather than appropriate additional state funds for this project, I wonder **whether Safe Routes to School (SRTS) funding has been considered.**

According to the National Partnership for SRTS, Hawaii still has not awarded all of its federal SRTS funds. Out of over \$8 million received, only 44% of awards have been announced through September 2016. That leaves several million dollars unspent. (The report is available at http://saferoutesinfo.org/sites/default/files/Fall2016_SRTS_TrackingReport_FINAL1_0.pdf.)

In addition, the state has its own SRTS program which passes funds through to the counties. Since its inception, at least \$2 million has been disbursed to counties. (See <http://hidot.hawaii.gov/highways/srts/>.)

Rather than use state general funds, please see how the federal SRTS funds may be used.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



LATE

Testimony by:
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
JADE T. BUTAY
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

February 28, 2017
11:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 308

H.B. 491
RELATING SIDEWALKS

House Committee on Finance

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** the intent of this bill as long as it does not replace our priorities requested in the Executive Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



Testimony by:
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
JADE T. BUTAY
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

LATE

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

February 28, 2017
11:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 308

H.B. 491
RELATING SIDEWALKS

House Committee on Finance

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** the intent of this bill as long as it does not replace our priorities requested in the Executive Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.