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GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 02/03/2017

Time: 10:30 AM

Location: 423

Committee: House Transportation

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 HB491

quinlan1 - Neil

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 2, 2017 9:19 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: nelson.ho@hawaiicounty.gov
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB491 on Feb 3, 2017 10:30AM

HB491

Submitted on: 2/2/2017

Testimony for TRN on Feb 3, 2017 10:30AM in Conference Room 423

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nelson Ho	Council Jen Ruggles	Support	No

Comments: Submitted on behalf of District 5 Hawaii County Councilmember Jen Ruggles.

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OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 491

A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SIDEWALKS

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Rep. Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair

Rep. Sean Quinlan, Vice Chair

Friday, February 3, 2017, 10:30 A.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 423

Honorable Chair Aquino, Vice-Chair Quinlan and Members of the Committee on Transportation, 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.

Some schools in Hawai'i County are built around small plantation towns with narrow streets, boardwalks and stairs. An example would be the town of Pahoa, where numerous buildings are nearing a century in age. Since some afterschool programs are not on school properties, students must walk about a quarter of a mile along the main street in town to get to their afterschool programs.

Students and their parents in school zones in rural areas walk on undersized sidewalks, some in serious disrepair and sorely in need renovation. Children with physical disabilities who are unable to use dilapidated sidewalks are forced to use the street as a means to get to and from after-school programs. With the most recent fire that destroyed a portion of student-transited sidewalks in Pahoa, students are now forced to walk along the busy street causing potential serious accidents and/or injury.

Having the school side walk maintenance repair program will enable students and their families to transit in a safe and comfortable manner to their afterschool programs, stores, recreation programs or home without the worry of getting injured 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.



Date: February 2, 2017

To: The Honorable Henry J. C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Sean Quinlan, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Transportation

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

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

Hrg: February 3, 2017 at 10:30 am at Capitol Room 423

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

quinlan1 - Neil

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 2, 2017 1:27 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: malamaopuna@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB491 on Feb 3, 2017 10:30AM

HB491

Submitted on: 2/2/2017

Testimony for TRN on Feb 3, 2017 10:30AM in Conference Room 423

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rene Siracusa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a 78 year old woman with a mobility impairment. I have to come to Pahoia every day and I find walking along Pahoia Village Rd. very difficult. The right-of-way is dangerously narrow in many places, and much of it is loose gravel. When we have heavy rains, it floods badly and leaves behind deposits of slippery mud. I recently had a bad fall: I tripped while crossing the road and landed on my palms, which were shredded and embedded with dirt (in front of 7-11). I had to go to the urgent care clinic and incur a co-pay. Because of arthritis in my hands, the fall made my manual dexterity even worse than usual. So yes, the students need a safe way to walk, but so do the handicapped and seniors. Please support this request. mahalo, Rene Siracusa

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quinlan1 - Neil

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 2, 2017 4:09 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: katc31999@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB491 on Feb 3, 2017 10:30AM*

HB491

Submitted on: 2/2/2017

Testimony for TRN on Feb 3, 2017 10:30AM in Conference Room 423

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kat Culina	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 3, 2017 8:03 AM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: richard@bidleman.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB491 on Feb 3, 2017 10:30AM

HB491

Submitted on: 2/3/2017

Testimony for TRN on Feb 3, 2017 10:30AM in Conference Room 423

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Bidleman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: If I had more time, I would have taken pictures of parents walking along the side of the road with children in hand or in a stroller and cars wizzing by a foot away. I'm confident you would not want this kind of infrastructure (or lack there of)in your community. I think you will find a number of pedestrians have been hit by cars.

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LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 2, 2017 8:58 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: freedom.ent@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB491 on Feb 3, 2017 10:30AM

HB491

Submitted on: 2/2/2017
Testimony for TRN on Feb 3, 2017 10:30AM in Conference Room 423

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Troy Chappell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Are children need this bill to pass Paho needs this bill to pass The people of Paho need this to pass The community will do all it can to help please pass the bill

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 2, 2017 7:36 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: shelleyaddison@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB491 on Feb 3, 2017 10:30AM



HB491

Submitted on: 2/2/2017

Testimony for TRN on Feb 3, 2017 10:30AM in Conference Room 423

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
shelley	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Pahoia is in major need of sidewalk improvements! Please help our community and the other communities that need improvements.

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