

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



Testimony by:
JADE T. BUTAY
INTERIM DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
ROY CATALANI
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 27, 2018
11:00 AM
State Capitol, Room 308

H.B. 2175, H.D. 1
RELATING TO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS

House Committee on Finance

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** this bill which requires any metropolitan planning organization serving a metropolitan planning area within the jurisdiction of a county that includes at least three islands inhabited by permanent residents to include on its policy board one member and alternate of the senate and one member and alternate of the house of representatives. Legislative representation will provide legislative guidance and perspective to policy decisions as the legislature provides the authority for federal and state fund expenditures.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Council Chair
Mike White

Vice-Chair
Robert Carroll

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Stacy Crivello

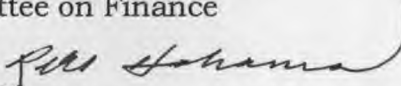
Councilmembers
Alika Atay
Elle Cochran
Don S. Guzman
Riki Hokama
Kelly T. King
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

February 26, 2018

TO: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Riki Hokama 
Councilmember

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 27, 2018; TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO
HB 2175, HD1, RELATING TO METROPOLITAN PLANNING
ORGANIZATIONS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **opposition** to this measure. The purpose of this bill is to require any metropolitan planning organization ("MPO") serving a metropolitan planning area within the jurisdiction of a county that includes at least three islands inhabited by permanent residents to include on its policy board one member of the senate and one member of the house of representatives and an alternate.

The Maui MPO was established in February 2016 by Ordinance 4293. In accordance with federal law, the Maui MPO Policy Board is composed of seven voting members: three councilmembers; the County Directors of Planning, Public Works, and Transportation; and the State Director of Transportation.

I **oppose** this measure for the following reasons:

1. The Maui MPO held its first meeting in May 2016. After almost two years of existence, SB 2296 is introduced to require state legislators be included in the area MPO. The State should allow the Maui MPO a few more years to work on its projects and prove its effectiveness before deciding that changes must be made to the policy board.
2. The State Director of Transportation is a member of the MPO and represents the State's position in the business of the Maui MPO. Adding state legislative officials is an unnecessary oversight and premature at this time. Furthermore, the Maui MPO focuses on work that is beneficial to the residents of the County of Maui. Therefore, County officials should make up the majority of the MPO.

For the foregoing reasons, I **oppose** this measure.



February 26, 2018

TESTIMONY OF LAUREN ARMSTRONG
MAUI MPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Tuesday, February 27, 2018, 11:00 A.M.
Conference Room 308

HB2175 HD1 RELATING TO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS.

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of HB2175 HD1 (with suggested amendments below), which requires that membership of each metropolitan planning organization policy board include at least one member of the senate and one member of the house of representatives from that metropolitan planning area.

The Maui MPO Policy Board has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as Executive Director.

As Executive Director of the Maui MPO, I support HB2175 HD1 to have representation from our State legislators on the MPO Policy Board. This will improve coordination between State and County as we seek solutions to transportation issues on the island of Maui.

I would like to request that the bill be amended to require that Maui MPO Policy Board members be residents of the metropolitan planning area, the island of Maui.

To comply with federal requirements in Title 23 U.S.C. 134(d)(2) for appropriate state official representation on the MPO Policy Board, it is critical that Policy Board members are residents of the metropolitan planning area. FHWA advised Oahu MPO as such in a 2013 Review of MPO Laws as related to HRS 279E. Please require that Maui MPO Policy Board members are residents of the metropolitan planning area of Maui.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lauren Armstrong", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Lauren Armstrong
Executive Director, Maui MPO

HB-2175-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2018 11:29:49 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2018 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Moran	Kihei Community Association (KCA)	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Luke and committee members. I am submitting testimony for our all volunteer, non profit orgination in South Maui in support of this measure before you. We have been active participants in the Maui MPO since inception, and believ adding stae legislators to the board would be a positive step. Mahalo. Mike Moran Kihei

Council Chair
Mike White

Vice-Chair
Robert Carroll

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Stacy Crivello

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LATE

February 26, 2018

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

FROM: Kelly King
South Maui Councilmember

**SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2175 HD1
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of HB2175 HD1, with suggested amendments requested below.

The purpose of the bill requires any metropolitan planning organization serving a metropolitan planning area within the jurisdiction of a county, that includes at least three islands inhabited by permanent residents, to include on its policy board one member of the Senate and one member of the House of Representatives and an alternate.

As a member of the Maui MPO Policy Board I support HB2175 HD1 that requires board representation from our State legislators. We are aware that there are State legislators that serve on the Oahu MPO and I believe this measure will improve coordination between State and County, as we seek solutions for transportation issues on the island of Maui. Having legislators serving on the MPO will help expedite state finding needs and coordinate the MPO legislative agenda.

I would like to request that the bill be amended to require that any metropolitan planning organization in Hawaii requires that board members be residents of the metropolitan planning area and include on its policy board one member of the State Senate and one member of the House of Representatives.

To comply with federal requirements in Title 23 U.S.C. 134(d)(2) for appropriate state official representation on the MPO Policy Board, it is critical that Policy Board members

February 26, 2018
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