

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 7, 2018
1:45 PM
State Capitol, Room 225

S.B. 2888
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

Description: Authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds for appropriation funds to the department of transportation to plan, design, and construct the Paia bypass.

Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

SB-2888

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 3:20:15 PM

Testimony for TRE on 2/7/2018 1:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Carroll	County of Maui	Support	No

Comments:

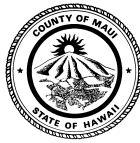
I support this measure for reasons cited in testimony submitted by Maui County Council Chair Mike White.

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
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February 5, 2018

TO: The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy

FROM: Mike White
Council Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike White".

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 7, 2018; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2888, RELATING TO THE PAIA BYPASS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this important bill. The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds for the State Department of Transportation to plan, design, and construct the Paia bypass on Maui.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

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

1. Constructing the Paia bypass is a top priority among residents and has been in the discussion and preliminary planning stages for over 15 years. An environmental impact statement is nearly completed and an investment of resources must be made to initiate the design and construction.
2. The Paia bypass will help to alleviate the severe traffic congestion and safety concerns that currently exist on Hana Highway to and from Paia, Haiku, and East Maui. Through a partnership, the County of Maui and Alexander and Baldwin alleviated some traffic congestion with a temporary mini-bypass. As a result, drivers avoid having to enter Paia Town when heading towards Makawao on Baldwin Avenue. Despite these efforts, traffic continues to persist and has steadily increased year after year. A permanent solution is sorely needed.
3. It is my understanding that the Paia bypass is on the statewide intermodal program of transportation projects (STIP) and federal funding is available for construction costs. The time has come to make this project a reality through this Federal-State partnership.

For the foregoing reasons, I strongly **support** this measure.

From: [PAIA Town](#)
To: [TRE Testimony](#)
Subject: support of SB2888
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 9:46:52 AM

Aloha, My name is Noelani Sugata and I am the part time Executive Director of the Paia Town Association.

I am in support of SB2888. I humbly ask you pass this bill to help alleviate traffic in our community. We had a meeting last night where Rep. DeCoite came to address the crowd who asked a lot of questions about the Paia Bypass. The Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization gave a presentation on future roadwork projects. Our community would like the bypass built sooner rather than later. There are two developments, possibly three, just in Paia in the works. We need to alleviate the traffic before those developments are completed.

Mahalo for your time.

--

Noelani Sugata, Executive Director
Paia Town Association
P.O. Box 791333
Paia, HI 96779
www.paiamaui.com
<https://www.facebook.com/PaiaTownAssociation/>

From: [Panna Speas Cappelli](#)
To: [TRE Testimony](#)
Subject: Paia Bypass
Date: Monday, February 5, 2018 3:54:43 PM

Aloha,

I've been a Paia Merchant for 18 years. This bypass is a long time coming. 25 years ago or so it came up for a vote and apparently a Paia merchant was against it and it was dropped. A pity. The problem has become so big now and land access so scarce, I don't even know how you are going to pull it off. When you do, please put in a massive free parking lot.

Panna Speas Cappelli, owner

Maui Hands Galleries

From: [Francine Aarona](#)
To: [inouye2 - Sara](#)
Subject: SB2888
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 2:16:26 PM

Aloha, my name is Francine Aarona (Aunty Mopsy/ Protect Pa'ia). I am in support of SB2888 for the Pa'ia Relief Route. I cannot begin to tell you how this Relief Toute will bring to our Community. I am a long time resident and safety issues become more and more hard to deal with. Traffic delays EMS, Firefighters, and MPD to do their jobs. Tourist traffic become a hardship for residents to and from work. Please approve SB2888.

Mahalo,
Francine Aarona
(Aunty Mopsy/Protect Pa'ia)

SB-2888

Submitted on: 2/3/2018 9:01:53 AM

Testimony for TRE on 2/7/2018 1:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shane Albritton		Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Shane Albritton and I'm a public school teacher from Haiku, Maui.

Over the past several years, the bottle neck that the stop light in Paia creates during rush hour has become so bad that many Haiku people who work in town, like me, have started to avoid Paia entirely, instead driving miles out of the way to access Haleakala Highway via Kaluanui and Hali'imaile.

The Paia bypass has been discussed for years. It's time for action.

Please support this common sense measure.

Mahalo.

SB-2888

Submitted on: 2/4/2018 3:19:31 PM

Testimony for TRE on 2/7/2018 1:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Barry		Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

As a resident who has to battle daily with the terrible traffic caused by the Paia bottleneck, I strongly support this Bill.

Mahalo,

Ms. Barbara Barry

Ha'iku, HI

96708

From: [Jesse Brill](#)
To: [inouye2 - Sara](#)
Subject: FW: Testimony re SB2888--Attention Tonga
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 12:04:30 PM

From: Jesse Brill [mailto:jbrill@naspp.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2018 1:40 PM
To: 'TREtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov'
Subject: Testimony re SB2888--Attention Tonga

Aloha Tonga,

Please make sure that the following testimony is presented to the Transportation and Energy Committee for its hearing tomorrow:

My name is Jesse Brill. I am a resident of Paia and have been following the trials and tribulations of The Paia Relief Route project closely.

I just today learned of your hearing tomorrow. Unfortunately, I am not able to fly to testify in person because this project is so important to not just the Paia community but to residents of Haiku, Hana, Makawao and beyond.

As you, no doubt, have been made aware, the constant traffic back-ups and long lines and standstill have become a major problem—to the point that we have a major safety issue on our hands. Ingress and egress in the event of emergencies has become impossible for ambulances and fire trucks. People who have to commute to jobs in Kahului from Hana and Haiku and Kuau are stuck in gridlock going to work and then returning home. The situation has become so bad that at almost all hours of the day, traffic is backed up in both directions.

Coincidentally, just last night there was a large community meeting in Paia about the problem with unanimous support for the Paia Bypass—but frustration that it still has not become a reality. Unfortunately, those of us at the meeting last night were not aware of your hearing tomorrow. So, please know that (had they known about the hearing) they would be testifying in person and in writing about the importance of SB2888.

Mahalo for your efforts to make this happen!

Jesse Brill

SB-2888

Submitted on: 2/2/2018 8:28:18 PM

Testimony for TRE on 2/7/2018 1:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Arianna Feinberg		Support	No

Comments:

As a small business owner and upcountry resident, I'm begging you to please allocate money to build the Paia bypass!!!

The traffic is completely out of hand with our current road situation. I schedule my life around avoiding the traffic. Often it isn't possible and I waste so much time just sitting there. With the current traffic situation, I don't go to Paia as much and I've reduced my support of some local businesses I used to frequent.

Paia could be a great town with a lot of opportunities. IF the Paia Bypass is built and traffic can be alleviated, THEN it'd be a great place for more housing and small business on Maui. It could be a great community where people can just walk and bike around to their work, shopping and recreation all in one spot. Unfortunately, the current traffic problem ruins the town and makes any additional development unfeasible.

Please allocate money to build the Paia Bypass and the North Shore of Maui will be a much more livable place for longtime residents of Paia, Makawao, and Haiku as well as for the visitors. Thank you for your consideration.

SB-2888

Submitted on: 2/4/2018 11:36:35 AM

Testimony for TRE on 2/7/2018 1:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Fitzpatrick	fitz for maui	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Honorable Senators,

My name is John Fitzpatrick and I am writting in support of SB 2888 which would provide funding for Paia bypass. Everyday residents sit in hours of traffic getting through Paia at all times of the day. The Paia bypass is long overdue and we need you to act now in order to provide the infrastucture for residents that have to pass through paia several times a day to get to work.

Mahalo,

Fitz

From: [Christine Thevenard](#)
To: [TRE Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony for Bill SB2888
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 12:52:02 PM
Attachments: [TINY LUNA & TIDE LOGOcopy.png](#)

Aloha,

My name is Christine Thevenard and I am a Paia resident and merchant and I am in support of SB2888. This should be the number one priority for road improvement on the Island of Maui.

The Paia bypass has been ignored for far too long. I humbly ask you pass this bill to help alleviate traffic in our community.

[Christine Thevenard](#)

[Luna&Tide](#)

lunaandtide@gmail.com

www.lunaandtide.com

808-579-3300

SB-2888

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 12:23:00 PM

Testimony for TRE on 2/7/2018 1:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tina Wildberger	Supporters for Tina Wildberger	Support	No

Comments:

Mahalo Senators for hearing this bill.

Please accept this correspondence as support for funding the Paia by-pass.

One of Maui biggest impact challenges, Pa'ia bypass can't be done soon enough. East Maui residents are trapped daily, unable to traverse our isthmus. They are unable to get to jobs and services. It is not uncommon to sit in idling vehicles for a half hour any given day just to get through the Hana Hwy/ Baldwin Rd intersection. While the County continues to irresponsibly green light more development east of Pa'ia without appropriate infrastructure, we are actively ruining this beautiful place. It's a big ticket to come to a Maui. Our visitors don't come here to sit in traffic. It's about quality not quantity. I look forward to better coordination between State and County functions in community development and planning. Meantime, thank you for funding this badly needed and long over due project.

Mahalo.

SB-2888

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 8:54:47 PM

Testimony for TRE on 2/7/2018 1:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keani Rawlins-Fernandez		Support	No

Comments:

From: [Satya Douglas](#)
To: [TRE Testimony](#)
Subject: Concerns Paia Bypass
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 6:46:33 PM

Aloha, my name is Christiane Douglas and I am a Paia merchant and I am in support of SB2888. I ask you pass this bill to help alleviate traffic in our community.

Thank you
Christiane Douglas