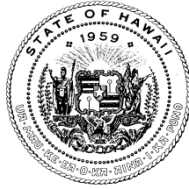


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN
DEREK J. CHOW
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

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

February 6, 2019
1:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 225



S.B. 1298
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

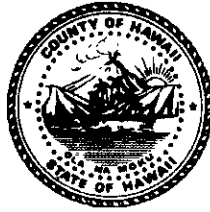
Senate Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **opposed** this bill.

Highway 132 is under the jurisdiction of the County of Hawaii and not the DOT. The bill should be amended to reflect the correct expending agency.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Harry Kim
Mayor



Wil Okabe
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553
KONA: 74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Hwy, Bldg C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740
(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

February 4, 2019

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
Hawaii State Legislature

Dear Chair Inouye and Committee members:

**RE: SB 1298, RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
(Highway 132, Kapoho Road)**

Thank you for hearing SB 1298, and thank you also to Senator Ruderman, and all the Big Island Senators, for keeping the focus on disaster recovery for lower Puna. We appreciate all your hard work, and look forward to whatever assistance the State can provide as we move forward.

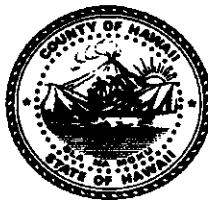
To bring you up to date on Kapoho Road specifically, please know that Highway 132 has been identified as a #1 Priority. Planning is already underway. We are now waiting for the six-month period of lava cessation to lapse, after which we can file our formal application for construction. We fully expect that the Federal Government will pick up the cost of rebuilding Highway 132.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harry Kim".

Harry Kim
Mayor

Council Member
District 5 – Puna



Phone No.: (808) 961-8263
matt.kanealii-kleinfelder@hawaiicounty.gov

MATT KANEALI'I-KLEINFELDER

County of Hawai'i

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2405 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

February 5, 2019

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Committee on Transportation
Hawai'i State Legislature

RE: SB1298 RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Dear Chair Inouye and Committee Members:

I am in full support of SB1298 and I would like to express my appreciation to you and to Senators Ruderman, Kahele, and Kanuha for prioritizing disaster recovery for Puna by moving forward with reopening Highway 132. We look forward to the day when our Puna residents can regain some normalcy back in their lives.

Thank you for the hard work that you all put forth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt", with a long, sweeping underline.

Matt Kaneali'i-Kleinfelder
Council Member
District 5

KAPOHO LAND PARTNERSHIP
(A Hawaii limited partnership)
Kapoho Management Company, Inc.
(General Partner)
Kapoho Land & Development Co. Ltd.
(808) 282-0448 (808) 935-5810
P. O. Box 374
Hilo, Hawaii 96721-0374

February 4, 2019

Subject: Senate Bill 1298 Relating to Transportation

Aloha Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair; Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair; and Committee Members

I am testifying in support of Senate Bill 1298 which appropriates funds to the State Department of Transportation for the purpose of reopening Highway 132, also known as Kapoho Road. I apologize that I am unable to attend the hearing on February 6, 2019 due to previously scheduled meetings in Puna, Hawaii Island.

Reopening highway 132 would allow neighbors and agricultural tenants to access lands that are presently encircled by lava from the 2018 Kilauea Lower East Rift Zone KLERZ eruption. Now that we are in a recovery phase, we are in discussions with our rancher and farmers to return and are working with our farmers so they can get access, via Highway 132, to papaya and noni fields that are currently "lava-locked." We have explored the alternative of going through private lands and have concluded that the most straightforward solution is to have highway 132 reopened along the existing alignment.

I have attached a map showing the Kapoho companies' lands and the area impacted by the 2018 eruption in Kilauea East Rift Zone. We recognize that many others lost more or everything. My family is the largest landowner impacted by the 2018 KERZ eruption. Based on the County of Hawaii's geographic information system, we had 1,265 acres covered by lava, including two of the fissures on our lands. Our direct losses are estimated to be in the low-eight figures, over \$10,000,000.00.

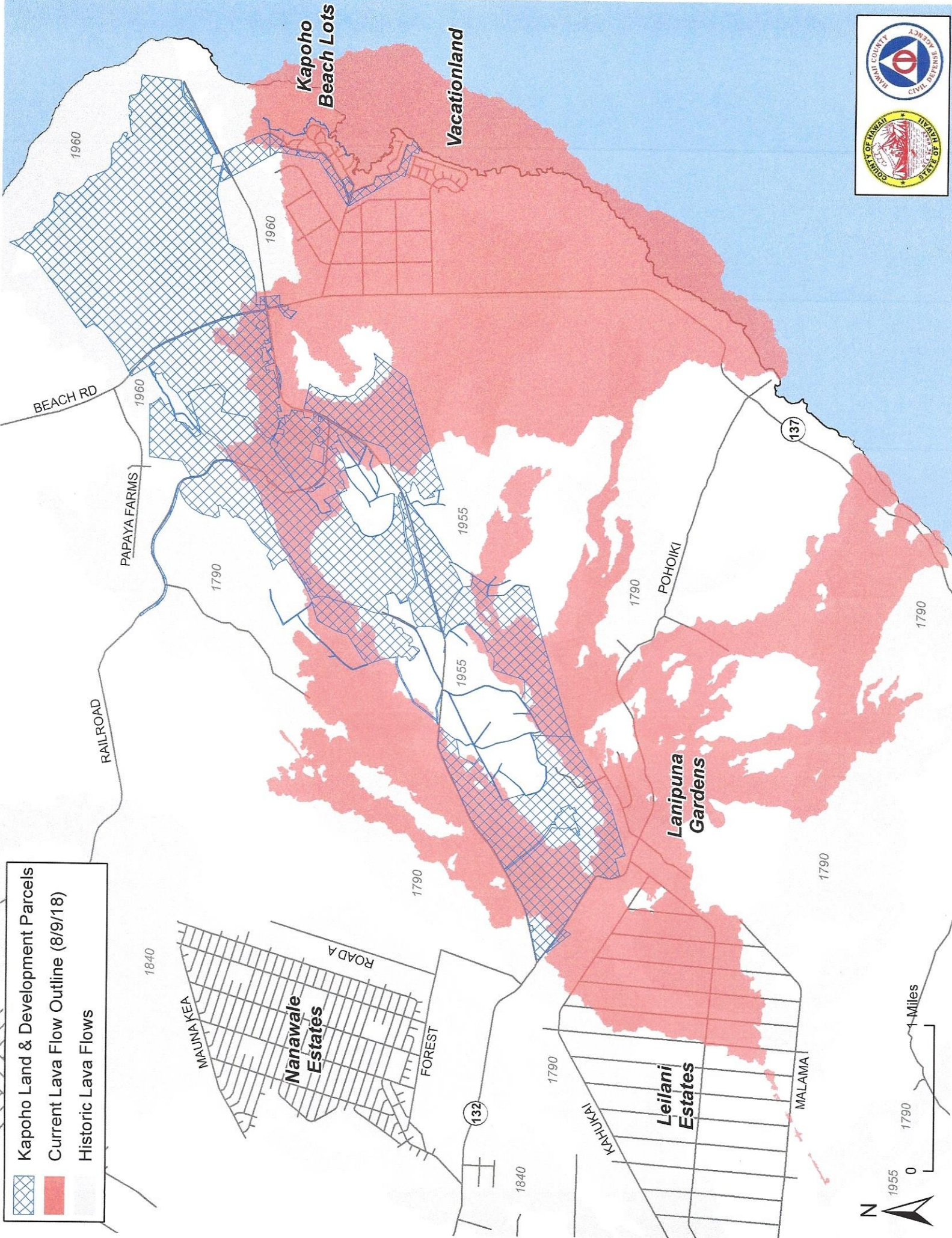
Our papaya farmers lost or do not currently have access to an estimated 650 acres of papaya fields, and our rancher has had to relocate to other pasturage. Our farmers and ranchers are families, they want to return to lands we own, and they need disaster funds preferably as grants.

During the eruption, and in the vicinity of the flow, we had papaya farmers who asked to expand their acreage, and we allowed them to do so without seeking any compensation from them. During the eruption, our rancher immediately moved their cattle to pasturage in Ka, however due to ash fallout from Kilauea Crater they were forced to move again.

Mahalo a nui loa,



A. Lono Lyman, Manager KLP and KLDC President KMC



Kapoho Land & Development Parcels

- Kapoho Land & Development Parcels
- Current Lava Flow Outline (8/9/18)
- Historic Lava Flows

Scale and Orientation

1955 0 1790 1 Miles

February 2019

Restoring Access to the Farmland along the Isolated Section of Highway 132

Please support the effort to restore access to the isolated portion of Highway 132 because the farmland there is extremely valuable. Our farm and our neighbor were producing 150,000-200,000 lbs/year of the best citrus and avocado supplying our islands. They are highly valued because of the microclimate of this particular area. Here is a more thorough explanation of the situation.

Our farm has been in operation for over 10 years, producing over 60,000 lbs/year of organic navel oranges and other fruit, for delivery to retail outlets on Hawaii Island, Oahu, and Maui. We need to be able to get back to our farm as soon as possible to prevent further deterioration of the orchards due to weeds and pests, and to resume operations prior to the next harvest season which is September 2019 through February 2020 for the main crops.

Our farming operation is beneficial to the entire community and state because it produces food that would otherwise be imported from overseas. Our citrus is of the highest quality (according to all our customers) and this is due to the perfect growing conditions in the area: a lot of sunshine, regular rainfall, and well-drained soil conditions. The isolated portion of Highway 132 has this microclimate so it is the best location in east Hawaii for many such crops and well worth the effort to restore access to it.

The cost versus benefit of restoring access to this area, at least for the farmers' pickup trucks, fairly soon, is in favor of restoring that access. Our farm was producing its main crops on only about half of its 15 acres so we have the potential to double our output. Our two neighboring farmers, though affected by the lava, can still produce \$40,000/year of top quality avocados and \$30,000/year of noni, when access is restored. The noni farmer, is also using only about half of his available acreage so all together we could produce \$50k+\$40k+\$30k/year with potential increase to \$100k+\$40k+\$60k/year. This is a total of between \$120k and \$200k per year of agricultural production which is just waiting for us three farmers to get back to work.

Over a 10 year period this adds up to between one and two million dollars of produce added to Hawaii's gross domestic product, in a sector (agriculture) that is supposed to be fully supported by Hawaii county and state.

We want to go home and get back to work. Please support the effort to restore access to the isolated portion of Highway 132.

Sincerely,
Dave Webb (6+ acre citrus farmer),
Rob Huelskamp (18 acre avocado farmer), and
Levy Magcalas (5+ acre noni farmer)

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 1:10:05 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ingrid Webb	Testifying for Sunny Kapoho Citrus	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, My name is Ingrid T. Webb. I'm a farmer and a mother of four young children. We moved from the Philipines to Hawaii 8 yrs ago. My husband David and I manage the 15 acre organic farm called Sunny Kapoho Citrus, owned by David's parents Marinette and Dave Webb. We've been in operation for over 10 years, producing over 60,000 lbs/year of Organic Navel Oranges and other fruits. We supply oranges to most of the big stores here on the Big Island, Wholefoods Oahu, Armstong, Foodland, Maui and Kauai. We also donate more than a few thousand pounds of Organic Oranges every season to Food Basket in Hilo. Our farming operation is beneficial to the entire community and state because it produces food that would otherwise be imported overseas. Together with our neighbor Rob Huelskampt of Kapoho Farms we've been producing 150,000-200,000 lbs/yr of the best Oranges and Avocados supplying Hawaii Islands. The quality of our produce is the best because Kapoho's microclimate, which makes the area very valuable farm lands. Kapoho is the best location to grow Papayas, Oranges, Avocados and much more. Also the flower industry of Kapoho is a million dollar profit per year industry.

We are very passionate farmers, and my children wishes to farm as well. Currently, I hike in every Saturday, eager to clean our home, spend a lot of money transporting in via Helicopter diesel, gas, tools and other supplies. I have been push mowing an acre at a time to get ready for us to move back again. We will be moving back to Kapoho after this school year because we want to keep growing and farming.

We are currently renting a house at Hawaiian Beaches. Its been a very stressful year for us. We had to evacuate from our home and farm right after the big earthquake and stayed at the evacuation center for 3 weeks with all 4 of our kids, 4 cats, 2 dogs, and a pig. We've been moving from house to house 5 times since the eruption. We will have to move again by March 1 since our landlord is selling the house in which we are currently living. Aside from being away from our home, our livelihood has been greatly affected. We are struggling to make ends meet. Though the eruption has stopped, a lot of our neighbors have moved on, me and my ohana are still in the eruption mode, struggling to survive, worrying about where we will be in a year, wondering if we are going be ok in the future now that our trees are dying. Right now they are in a bad shape, they need

fertilizers as soon as possible before the drought season comes. I don't think they will survive this time if we don't get them back in shape. If we start planting more trees now in 5 yrs we will be fully operational again. Please Support SB1298, we need a Road, help us get home.

Sincerely,

Ingrid T. Webb

(808) 854-7900

14-4334 Pahoia-Kapoho Rd., Pahoia HI

TMK: 14013003000

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 3:04:08 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hazen komraus	Testifying for Kalapana Seaview Estates Community Association President	Support	No

Comments:

Please advance this bill to help our district recover and people return to their intact homes!

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 6:26:53 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Terrence Hedtkey	Testifying for Laumana Farms (Jane, Rick, Terry, and Dereck Hedtkey)	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Representatives, I respectfully wish to bring to your attention the urgent situation that exists as a continuation of the lava emergency. There are about 50 homes and dozens of farmers (1200 acres of agricultural land) that remain isolated without road access due to lava. We are in an area of about 3 square miles off of highway 132 in the Puna District. There are 2 miles of hwy 132 which are open in our lava locked area and most of us could access our homes and farms off of this stretch of highway if the 1 and 1/2 miles of highway 132 which is covered with lava were cleared.

It is an emergency situation as our homes are rapidly deteriorating, they are vulnerable to looters, the farm land which was once productive is neglected, the cinder trucks are traveling through a residential area and the whole area is suffering economically without the resource of this area and stretch of highway. The first step to recovery is a road! Please help us! An emergency funding account to help the opening of highway 132 is desperately needed to expedite the re-opening of the highway. A temporary road would suffice. We need the funding so it can happen quickly. PGV has a road, Pohoiki has a road, both built quickly under emergency proclamations.

We are a family of two generations farming in Kapoho and we only want to return to our home. We need a road to reclaim our lives and livelihoods!

Mahalo for helping our community in this time of healing.

HAWAII STATE SENATE

Committee on Transportation

Committee on Ways and Means

RE: Senate Bill 1298 RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

Appropriates funds to the department of transportation for the purpose of reopening Highway 132, also known as Kapoho Road

Dear Senators,

We are writing in support of SB 1298. We are property owners in the area since 1974, with a total of 5 parcels adding up to approximately 57 acres. The lava flow covered 10 acres of our best farmland on May 31, 2018. The remaining 47 acres are still in production and also include our home and packing and repair sheds.

Our farm is located in Kapoho, on the north side of Hale Kamahina. We are adjacent to the shortest path across the flow. This route is being taken by several property owners who live inside the land that has been cut off by Fissure 8 and Fissure 17. Every week for the past several months there are about 10 people who park their vehicles on our property and hike over the lava to access their homes. They carry in fuel, small equipment, food, tools, and a boundless spirit to rebuild their homes. A few homes were burned in the brush fire which started from the lava and swept over the dry land.

On several occasions these landowners have brought in via helicopter larger equipment and building supplies. Otherwise, they carry by backpack as much as they can while hiking over the rough trail that is being used over the lava. There are some 50-70 homes that are still in substantial condition to re-occupy.

In addition, there are hundreds of acres of some of the best cinder soil farmland Puna has to offer with the right amount of sunshine and rainfall. Many fields have crops that survived the flow. Others can be easily replanted, especially the papaya fields. Growers are looking for land elsewhere but they prefer to have their Kapoho fields back in production. Several are still paying on their leases whether they have access or not.

Anything you can do to help rebuild Highway 132 is urgently needed at this time. The land is perfect for replanting and rebuilding. Most of the albizia trees and other invasive trees died with the flow. The rains are back since the lava stopped on August 4 and the growth is bountiful. We need to keep ahead of the grasses that are going to take over. Please move on SB 1298 quickly.

Mahalo and sending energy your way to battle this bill through the legislature,

Delan and Jennifer Perry
Volcano Isle Fruit Co
Dba Kapoho Grown
14-2807 Hale Kamahina Rd
PO Box 537, Pahoa, HI 96778

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 10:58:42 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katharine E Avery	Testifying for People of Puna	Support	No

Comments:

This is a request for the State to do the right thing for the taxpayers of Puna. Please this is your job to make sure that We can go back to our homes quickly. This has been a very hard time for all and the PTSD has taken a toll. We just want to be home. Please make this happen, Mahalo for your Kindness and understanding. Aloha Kalia Avery

February 1, 2019

Nancy L. Seifers
14-4318 Kapoho Paho Highway
TMK 1-4-012-008-0000

To: Hawaii State Legislature
Re: SB 1298, SB 469 and HB 1179

Aloha, I am writing in **support of SB 1298, SB 469 and HB1179**. I have been a taxpaying resident and farmer in Kapoho, as well as serving as an educator in our local schools, for over 30 years. I lost 1 house on my 13 acre farm to the brush fire yet my main residence stands pristine waiting for my return. We need another **Emergency Proclamation** by our County or the State in order to provide access to Highway 132- a temporary road, up and over the lava. We displaced residents are still in a state of emergency/disaster. A temporary road has been done for Highway 137 open to the public and PGV has successfully completed the road in to their plant. It must be done for the many residents isolated off of 132 (more than 100+TMKs provided and petitions with over 2000 signatures in support). Resolution 732-18 was passed unanimously by the County Council in Nov. and states "Be it further resolved that building Highway 132 and identifying funding sources, obtaining road easements, planning and engineering road construction should be the highest priority for the County Administration." Aaron Chung was passionate about the road recovery for residents in his inaugural address as incoming Chair of the County Council! Let us turn that Resolution in to action! Waiting until April 5 for our Mayor to even begin access discussions or July 2019 for State funding is an incredible challenge for the residents of Kapoho.

I had to fly in by helicopter in October to secure and maintain my homestead, which I can no longer afford while having to relocate and start my life over. I also hiked over the fissure in November, at 70 years old, to ensure that my home is still safe. The field was no hotter than the vents have always been in my orchards. A major portion of Highway 132 still exists. My memories, family member's ashes, treasures and life's work remain isolated and I want to go home. I had to return to work as an educator in order to handle the financial hardships of relocation.

We residents believe it is our government's civic responsibility and duty to protect and serve its constituents. The funds are there to help us in the ROAD to recovery by giving us a ROAD. We want to go home and begin to contribute to our local economy once again. **Please fund SB1298!**

With respect and gratitude,
Sincerely,

Nancy L. Seifers. MEd.
(808) 217-6628
nancyseifers@gmail.com

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/1/2019 4:08:26 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
bernadette sabth	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Please help us help ourselves with our RECOVERY. A ROAD is what is needed for us to reclaim our lives. We have lost 2 main buildings on our 20 acres, but there is so much potential with the structures that remain. We are totally compliant with all permits and have current projects which were ongoing which need to be finished as the permits will soon expire. BUT a road is needed for us to rebuild, restore, and once again be grateful for what we DO have to return to. Even though all our personal belongings have burned in a fire, we can build a new life with what remains. Make funding available for Highway 132 to be opened. Mahalo, bernadette sabath

Subject: Support for Opening of HWY 132
Bill SB1298

Dear Representative,

I am writing in support of the reopening of HWY 132. I am a landowner, TMK below, who built my house & raised my family on this land. I have lived here for 40 years and consider myself blessed to be a resident of Kapoho, Hawaii, County of Hawaii.

With this lava eruption event, I have been displaced, as one of the many in my community. I count myself as one of the lucky ones who still has a home & farm to go back to, if only the road would reopen.

Over the last 7 months I have moved 6 times into temporary housing. The lease on my current rental is expiring the end of the month. I am faced with moving again. How I wish it was to be moving home! My health has greatly suffered from this stress. I am now on temporary disability & have lost my job.

Please help us help ourselves! **We do not want to join the ranks of permanently displaced and/or homeless people.** Build us a temporary road to access our homes until a more permanent solution is granted.

Thank you – I trust you will do the only responsible thing & approve & fund Bill SB1298.

Katherine Marchese
14-4326 Pahoa-Kapoho Rd.
PO Box 1907
Pahoa, Hi

TMK 314012002

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 12:25:57 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
carolan cash	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha. Please support opening HWY 132 in Kapoho. Mahalo

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/1/2019 7:12:19 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Roach	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha,

I and my 2 teenage daughters have been displaced from our home of 12 years. Our land stands at least 30 feet above the level of the closest lava as we live on a hill that we share with many wonderful neighbors. Approximately 50 private homes/farms and an enormous amount of lease lands are currently inaccessible.

The neighborhood is - or I should say was - filled with industrious farmers and ranchers. The only thing keeping us from resuming our lives and our farms is the fact that our highway, which is the route home, was covered over a 1.5 mile stretch with lava.

The opening of the PGV access route (less than a mile from where we need the road opened) and Pohoiki boat ramp has proven that the feasibility of crossing the lava is evident. These roads were built in DAYS.

I am exhausted by living in limbo. I've moved to 3 rentals since being displaced. I just want to go back home as soon as possible and reopening Hwy 132 would make that a reality. I plead with you to appropriate funds to this project. The papaya, citrus, avocado, macnut, and other tropical fruit growers amongst us will be very grateful!!! This is a unique growing area and we want to get back to growing!

I SUPPORT SB1298

Aloha, Lisa Roach

14-6984 Hula Place

Pahoa HI 96778

TMK 3-1-4-16-13

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/1/2019 8:16:37 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Oshi Simsarian	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass SB 1298! I live in the Puna District of the Big Island in the lava locked area off of highway 132. The lava locked area has 50+ homes and dozens of farms and is approximately 3 square miles. It is the bread basket of the Big Island with prime agricultural land and lovely homes created by hard working people who love the land. We are in desperate need of road access. Please approve SB 1298 so we can restore hwy 132 and can finally go home! There has been so much loss from the lava, allow us to reclaim our homes that remain before it is too late.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/1/2019 8:16:47 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
mark clawson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am humbly asking for support for SB 1298 as it is very important to those of us (some 100+) who have no road access to our homes and farms due to recent lava flows that funding is secured to re-open Hwy 132. Thank-you.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 6:13:46 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
william san filippo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass SB1298 and allow us all to go home. Tourists and residents can go back to Pohiki Park and certain residents living off Pohiki Rd and go back home. PGV can go "home" to their business. Why can we not go home to our houses and businesses??? How can some roads be constructed across the lava while all we hear from the mayors office is "we have to research" "we are thinking about it" "studies need to be done" "the emergency proclamation lapsed" We get lip service while others have gotten a road home.

We need to get back to our properties to live in them, protect them, maintain them.

This bill may represent a certain small percent of the total state budget. Our houses represent our whole lives in most cases. Please do the right thing and pass this bill. Help us get home.

Thank You Bill San filippo

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 8:52:34 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Blackwell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Scott Blackwell and I born and raised in Kapoho on my family farm, which was overrun by lava on approximately Friday July 13th, 2018.

I now own the property at 14-4507 Kapoho Rd, (TMK: (3) 1-4-014-010) which was cut off from road access when the 2018 lava flow crossed highway 132. **Kapoho is my home and my livelihood**, with avocado and cattle farming being my primary source of income. I still plan to make this property my future home and hope to develop my business further as tourist are drawn to the area after the most recent lava flow.

As such, road access across the flow near the "Y" intersection is vital to my future plans for both my living arrangements and career. Please help me and my neighbors go home by pushing for road access from Pahoa to the remaining stretch of 132.

Reagrds,
Scott Blackwell

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 10:15:00 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caroline Thow	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you so much for considering appropriating funds to the reopening of 132. My husband and I are anxious to have road access to our home and farm, located in an area of about 3 square miles off of highway 132 in the Puna District. If the 1 and 1/2 miles of highway 132 which are covered with lava were cleared, we could finally start to repair our property and home, and with it heal a deep wound in our lives. We need to return to our home, our community, and our lives. Until we can, we feel like we are in limbo, and our financial situation remains unstable.

The first step to recovery for both us and our neighbors is a road! Please help us! A temporary road would suffice. PGV has a road, Pohoiki has a road, both built quickly under emergency proclamations. It's hard not to feel like the lowest priority and forgotten. Thank you for your consideration.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 8:28:18 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eric&Diane Cohen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha! We are Eric and Diane Cohen. We used to reside at 14-4106 Railroad ave (TMK 14015008) before the eruption took our place and business. We request and advocate the opening of HWY 132 in some form through bill SB1298 for the following reasons:

1. Access our property in some form
2. Access for many of our neighbors who still have homes and business
3. Access so that FEMA can examine homes and losses. Currently Fema will not access without permission in most places
4. Currently many people including us are living in temporary housing and situations. Going home can alleviate that situation for many residents.
5. We also do support SB 469 and HB 1179.

Please consider all the possible options open to everyone.

Mahalo, Eric and Diane Cohen 2/2/2019

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 11:04:28 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Bernard	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello - I am a property owner whose land near Kapoho Crater has been isolated but not inundated by the lava flow of 2018. We are eager to begin the recovery process--tending to our surviving fruit trees, taming the overgrown cane grass, cleaning and repairing damage--but without access it's nearly impossible. For us, as for our neighbors in the same situation, the road to recovery is literally a road. This particular area of Puna is so rich and fertile and magical, it doesn't deserve to be abandoned. This land, and the farmers and ranchers who work it, can contribute so much to life on the Big Island, but not until a road is opened. The best, easiest and fastest way to offer access is to reopen Highway 132, even on a temporary basis. Please allocate the funds to make this happen. Please allow us to begin the hard work of real recovery.

Mahalo to all those who are fighting so hard for the reopening of Highway 132/Kapoho Road.

Jennifer Bernard and Scott Wright

TMK 03-1-4-14-06

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 11:30:38 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eddie McLaren	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Bill SB1298 must be passed. Opening highway 132 is a must as it is affecting hundreds of residents including my wife and me from getting into our property's. If not passed it is causing undue hardship to all of us. Please make this a priority.

Edward B. McLaren

Pauline k. McLaren

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 11:51:47 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Margaret K Hazelwood	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The people of Kapoho need to access their homes and farms. You've opened for business and tourists now try doing something for residents of the big island who've been displaced and for whom no insurance is available since their homes still stand, only the road is a barrier. Thank you Margaret Hazelwood

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 12:05:53 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ariel Murphy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Puna and specifically Pahoia has been economically devastated by the latest lava eruption that covered areas in Kapoho. Homes and farms have become inaccessible. To facilitate Pahoia's recovery, funds have to be appropriated so that Highway 137 can be opened and residents and farmers can regain access to their homes, farms and businesses. Recovery needs revitalization. Essential to that is access. Please kokua! Mahalo!

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 12:14:16 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Debra Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Senators,

I fully support SB1298. My husband and I still have land remaining in Kapoho Vacationland Farmlots, we have about an acre left with a greenhouse, fruit trees and gardens. It is still beautiful property and we want to return to rebuild. We did lose our home, but have plenty of space to rebuild and continue with our self sustainability. We have 4 other neighbors with useable land left, 3 with houses. We all want to return. We need Highway 132 restored to move forward with our lives. That's our immediate need, the bigger picture is that there are so many more people with homes along 132 who need access. There are several farms that are going to waste, it is hard to watch all the hard work these people have put in go to waste. We all need to return home. Please help us do so.

Thank you, Debra Smith

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 12:33:15 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Begg	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Restoring highway 132 would provide Sanford's their primary transportation route. Highway 137, aka Government Beach Road, has become a trucking thoroughfare and it is NOT constructed for it.

Additionally, the County approved subdivisions of highway 137 which are situated in the tsunami evacuation zone need another egress because our original alternate egress was taken out by the lava flow over 132.

Thank you.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 1:28:21 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Hester	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I live in Puna along the Red Road and we need Highway 132 opened immediately, not waiting for a few more months. Our elders who live there who don't have cars are suffering from long walks, just to get food and water. Tourists who come to see the lava flow and visit Isaac Hale Beach Park must waste gas if they are coming from Pahoa or take Opihikao which is a very small one way road. I have seen cars speeding the road and no doubt there have been accidents. Please help us find relief from the lava flow by opening this road asap and helping Pahoa and Puna in its long term recovery. This is an imporant step to making our community whole.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 2:02:11 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Selah levine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Residents & farm workers should to be able to go back to the land. This road needs to be reopened for new coastline access and to allow for safer, less congested and time saving routs. The faster this happens the better it will be for all of the communities in lower puna. Get people home, back to work and allow residents and tourist a safe way to appreciate the new land and coast that has been created.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 2:28:46 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Danielle Holland	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please appropriate funds to the department of transportation for the purpose of reopening Highway 132, also known as Kapoho Road! Many people of lower Puna need to go home and are relying on you to make that possible! Mahalo!

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 2:53:37 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amy Strauss	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Representatives

My name is Amy Strauss and I am a resident of Kapoho for the last 30 years. My daughter and I resided at 14-4509 Pahoia Kapoho Road off of HWY 132 near the 6th mile Marker. My house was taken by the lava but several acres of our farm still remains. We had many fruit trees and an avocado orchard. We need access to our property to care for existing trees and also to begin farming this extremely fertile land again. My family also owns the 7 acra next door that was untouched by the recent lava (Scott Blackwell and Stanley and Patricia Blackwell). It is essential to have access for me, my family, and my neighbors whose homes and land are untouched by lava as well. I am asking for the funds to be allocated for HWY 132 restoration. This will allow all of the residents to access their homes and properties and allow the farmers to return and farm this very special place again.

Please help us open HWY 132 again.

Sincerely,

Amy Strauss

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 4:34:31 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Louisa Oâ€™Neil	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We respectfully request access to our homes and farmlands along Route 132 from the Lava Tree State Park area eastwards to Gov. Beach Rd. This will reconnect fragmented neighborhoods and allow families, including mine, to return to our homes mercifully spared during the 2018 lava flow. For economic survival of south Puna and Pahoia, this restoration of the main public roadway will make us able to go home.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 4:45:31 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sheila Meneely	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 4:54:11 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeffrey Kaye	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I want to strongly support SB 1298, which will appropriate money to fix and reopen Highway 132, east of Pahoehoe. I live in Hawaiian Paradise Park, north of the area most affected by the recent volcanic eruption. I got to know many people from lower Puna during this recent period, and learned much about this beautiful area and the wonderful people who live there. It is one of the most special communities I have gotten to know in my 64 years on this Earth. Artists, farmers, laborers, small business people, families, etc. Their community remains scarred and divided by the destruction to key infrastructure, especially roads. Opening up State Hwy. 132 will go a long way to restoring the damage done by the volcano, and be an economic boon to the region. I can't imagine why there would be any argument to allocating this money, and humbly ask our state legislators to pass this bill and expeditiously restore the roads in one of the most beautiful regions of our state. Sincerely, Jeffrey S. Kaye, Ph.D.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 5:11:13 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Segal	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Representatives,

I am a resident of lower Puna and have been here throughout the volcano and lava flow that washed over our beautiful aina last year. While I was relieved that some progress was made on opening the Red Road to Isaac Hale Park and Pohoiki, I know that many of our residents are still suffering from lack of access to their homes and property because Highway 132 remains closed. This is putting enormous strain on Kamaili Road, which was never designed as a freeway passage to Pohoiki. The road is continually hit with a barrage of traffic all day and night, and the impact is substantial on the road and the residents of that area. At the very least, speed bumps should be installed on the narrows. In addition, hundreds of home and land owners whose homes survived the lava, cannot access their homes or properties. They remain in limbo without support from insurance or the government assisting them in reclaiming their lives. I am pleading with you to make opening Highway 132, Kapoho Road, a priority for the sake of safety and the welfare of all of lower Puna.

Respectfully submitted

Barbara Segal

12-7139 Kalaunu Street

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 5:16:13 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joan Shafer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The reopening of this road will affect 100's of people in providing SAFER and smarter access to their homes, businesses, and attractions; all of which significantly support the economics of this area. At present, the Sanford cinder trucks are barreling down Government Beach Road hourly, which is essentially a one-lane road where walkers, hikers, bikers, and tourists frequent. Honestly, if this continues, it is a major accident waiting to happen. Route 132 is a main artery road to countless homes and beach areas. I strongly support this measure and ask please that you have a 'Can do' approach that would dramatically transform the lives of the people in Lower Puna, of which there are 1000's. Thank you for your time in this. Joan Shafer

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 6:37:21 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support opening HWY 132. It's been way too long that this roadway has been closed, cutting people off from their home, orchards, and livelihood. As long as it can be safely driven on, it should be accessible to the public, especially to those who have a lot at stake there. Am I wrong in thinking that as taxpayers, we should have a say in whether or not our money can go towards opening this road?

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 11:07:10 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Luana Jones	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Strong Support!

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 11:26:33 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shana ritsema	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please open the road so the residents can take care of their properties. It is very important to them and the right thing to do if possible.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 9:29:17 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patrick Karjala	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

It is imperative for the livelihood of residents whose structures were not affected by the 2018 eruption to regain reliable and fast access to their property. Please pass this funding measure to re-open access through Route 132.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 9:55:13 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Cantor	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Representative,

With the covering of Highway 132 in Puna by the recent lava eruption, much of the community is suffering financially.

With the reopening of the highway, everybody will benefit.

Businesses and restaurants will have more customers; farmers can go back to growing and harvesting their crops; the papaya farmers can tend their fields; the ATT cell tower can be accessed for maintenance; cattle ranchers can bring back their livestock; cinder trucks can avoid residential neighborhoods and deliver their loads via the highway; and families can go home.

It only makes sense to open the highway and to do so quickly so that further harm isn't incurred.

Thank you,

Lisa Cantor

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 11:45:00 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Valerie Colter	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Yes please re-open all the closed roads. 132 and also Pohoiki past PGV.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 2:50:54 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sunshine Woodford	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please open up the roads so that people can access their homes and farms. It is appalling to me that the County let PGV reopen their roads and that they opened the roads for tourists to Pohoiki, but we cannot help our residents get home.

There is absolutely no reason. The State and County should take care of their residents first. Instead they have treated many of them as criminals. Not allowing them home and threatening them with big fines, jail and confiscating equipment if they try to open their roads and driveways. This is hewa. Take care of our ka'amaina first.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 3:57:12 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Burrows	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 7:13:11 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
George Wight	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony in support of SB 1298

February 3, 2019

Dear Representatives,

My home and farm is located on Highway 132 in Kapoho and is isolated by lava on Hwy 132. It is fully intact but lying fallow until road access is re-established.

I am a 20 year resident of Hawaii County, 15 years in Kapoho.

My family helped me build my home in 2007, in order in order for me to manage my disability, and, through farming and serving my community through my extensive experience teaching farming and animal husbandry skills, to support my aging in place with a productive independent life.

My farm sustainably supported 80 animals, now evacuated and being cared for by our generous farming community. Unable to secure a rental, I have been forced to leave the island to await road access to my home. Were it not for caring, generous friends on the mainland who have taken us in, my house pets and I would now be among the homeless in Hawaii.

My story mirrors those of many of my displaced neighbors and farmers dependent on accessing their property. I am senior with a productive farm. I have one home, with no possibility of having another. I have watched the needs of communities on our island when they have been compromised by natural adversity, each being supported and their needs addressed. This time, we need help. Hawaii is stronger whole than in pieces. Please support the recovery of our community by opening Hwy 132. Our lives literally depend on it.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Valerie Barber
Hwy 132, Pahoia
TMK 1-4-:014:007

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 9:35:21 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

As owners of a home on property just off lower 132, it would mean everything to us for you to re-open the road. Thank you.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 8:42:35 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tom Cumming	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support SB1298!

We need Highway 132 opened up, now! Even if it is gravel, it would be better than not being able access our homes at all. A few people can get in but only after a long drive that goes over private property, and dangerous narrow roads. The rest of us have no access to our properties!

Sanford's gravel trucks must also use private roads through an otherwise quiet neighborhood because they no longer have access to their gravel pit due to the closure of Highway 132.

Please support SB1298!

Thank you, tom.c

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 6:15:55 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michele R. Michael	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am showing my support to get highway 132 reopened asap for the many residents who cannot access their land and homes.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 8:53:38 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dominic Tidmarsh	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha.

This testimony is being submitted in support of Bill SB1298 and is in support of appropriating funds for the purpose of reopening Highway 132, also known as Kapoho Road, in the Puna district of Hawai'i Island.

The communities of Lower Puna are still reeling after the catastrophic upheaval brought on by the eruption of Kilauea in 2018. The reopening of Highway 132 is a vital and critically urgent need for the recovery of the community. As the only road directly connecting Pahoia to the eastern most section of the island, Highway 132 served as an artery effectively supporting business, agricultural and residential activities in the area. The continued lack of access into the area, cut off when lava crossed Highway 132, is effectively holding businesses, farmers and residents hostage. Without some form of regular direct access to the affected properties, recovery can not fully even begin.

COMMERCIAL cinder trucks, in large numbers, have no choice but to take a long and circuitous route over the extremely narrow winding one lane "emergency evacuation" route that is Government Beach Road. They then must pass some miles through the residential area of Hawaiian Beaches. The situation continues relentlessly as the cinder trucks provide vital support to construction and agricultural activities and address a wealth of other needs to businesses and residents in and well beyond Lower Puna. These narrow roads were never designed or intended to handle such wear and tear, and provide inadequate protection and separation from pedestrians. The current truck route takes them right past Keonepoko Elementary School. It is an accident waiting to happen. The trucks pose a very real threat to the residents and the infrastructure of Hawaiian Beaches and Government Beach Road.

The longer the current situation continues, the greater the chances that there will be accident, injury or damage.

With a viable route along Highway 132, even as a rough-graded route over the lava to begin with, the trucks will all disappear from the residential areas.

AGRICULTURAL land forms the vast majority of the area cut off by the lava flows. Unlike the situation with the cinder trucks, there is no viable access whatsoever to the farmers' fields. Revenue is lost, fields and crops are rapidly being reclaimed by the jungle and farmers face a path to recovery that grows more daunting with each passing day.

The longer the current situation continues the greater the damage to the agricultural community and the harder the path to recovery.

RESIDENTS whose homes and properties survive within the cut-off area uncovered by lava, likewise, face the insurmountable task of trying to maintain their homes and properties in the face of the relentless jungle and climate of Lower Puna. These are people who have suffered great loss in their lives, and who have been subjected to severe and protracted trauma. Their lives have been turned upside down in the most dramatic, violent and sudden of ways. And yet they can not even get back to their homes despite all volcanic activity having ceased in early September, FIVE months ago!

The longer the current situation continues the greater the adversity for the residential community and the harder the path to recovery.

There are those who have suggested that living in the Rift Zone should not be allowed and that roads in the area will only encourage people to move back in. That would appear to be a simplification at best, and a denial at worst. Should the residents of Tokyo or San Francisco not be allowed to build or live there because of the threat of another cataclysmic earthquake? How about Seattle or Naples which are seriously threatened by volcanoes? Indeed the threat exists, to some degree, no matter where you live on our planet.

I urge you to support Bill SB1298 and, in so doing, to support the recovery of the Business, Agricultural and Residential communities of Lower Puna.

Thank You.

Dominic Tidmarsh. Halekamahina Road

(Cut off by lava since May 29th, 2018. 8 months and counting).

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 9:24:26 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
EDITH HALL	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please help the farmers and residents that live off of or still have property off of Hwy 132 to get back to their properties and farms. WE need the farms for our island sustainability and like in the 80's the people will just make the land grow. The fresh lava flow will not be a problem as it was not a problem in the past. Hawaiians used to get out the way of th eflow and then go back and make the the land fertile again... please facilitate that happening as soon as possible so that families adn farmers can have some closure and a future.

Mahalo for your time and hard work getting Hwy 132 open.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 10:41:48 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marilyn Begg	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB1298 to appropriate funds for Highway 132 (Kapoho Rd).

1. Clear Highway 132our communities must have another exit route to ensure public safety when/if any future natural disaster occurs.
2. Clear Highway 132...our communities must have access to their homes that were unaffected by the 2018 lava eruption and fires. These homeowners have experienced tremendous emotional distress and trauma because of the 2018 lava eruption and must have some normalcy brought back into their lives.
3. Clear Highway 132...our communities must preserve the recently paved Government Beach Road by diverting Sanford cinder trucks through Highway 132, which would create a more beneficial, timelier and safer route resulting in residents resuming their peaceful existence.as they were accustomed.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 11:01:48 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melissa Schelling	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support SB 1298 and help Puna residents return to their homes. The 2018 lava eruption devastated many areas, yet everyone whose property survived has been allowed to return home except the residents close to Highway 132.

The Hwy 132 property owners were fortunate to escape devastation, but their homes are surrounded by lava flows, and official signs warn them to stay off the lava. None of the other residents have these restrictions.

1. Property owners on the flow margins are allowed to return home - including the residents of Leilani, where most of the fissures erupted.
2. Property owners off Pohoiki Road were also lava-locked, until the County bulldozed a road to the new Pohoiki beach.
3. Puna Geothermal Venture is an immediate neighbor to the homeless Hwy 132 residents, and the County gave PGV permission to bulldoze a road very close to Hwy 132.

SB 1298 is about appropriating money, but please remember that people's lives are in the balance. Hwy 132 property owners need to return home for many reasons.

1. If their houses are still standing then insurance won't pay them a cent. How are they supposed to relocate without finances?
2. These residents have possessions stuck behind the lava flow. It costs money to replace possessions. They need to be allowed back home in order to retrieve their items.
3. Residents who lost their homes in the brush fire need to provide details to the insurance company, but are unable to return in order to see what survived and what didn't.
4. Looters are trespassing and stealing items that belong to these residents.
5. Squatters are taking advantage of empty homes. You should be aware that some homes in this area are very nice - way better than the assumed "hippy shack."
6. If you don't help residents return to their homes, then the area will become lawless. Very fertile soil and plenty of farming machinery will allow lawless people to do what ever they want.

I am one of these property owners. I am also an active voter. It feels like the County is penalizing us for surviving the lava eruption. As long as you allow others to return to their lives pre-eruption, but refuse the same for us, then you are discriminating against us.

Please support SB 1298.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 11:08:31 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Moore	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please, reopen the highways that were covered by the 2018 lava flow in Puna. Our community has suffered greatly due to this catastrophe and this will be a big first step towards recovery.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 12:51:07 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karla Bieschke	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a resident of the Hawaiian Shores Recreation neighborhood, I support SB1298.

When the lava flow destroyed roads and threatened homes and lives, Beach Road/Papio Street became the only evacuation route for thousands of people. It was heartbreaking, day after day, seeing all those frantic people, desperate to get their families, pets and belongings to safety. My neighbors and I felt deeply for the people impacted by the lava flow and we were grateful that there was an evacuation route and people were able to get out of the danger zones in time.

Later, when the evacuations were complete, the Sanford cinder trucks began using the route on a daily basis for multiple back and forth trips. Although the noise and potential safety issues were bothersome, I think that most people in the neighborhood understood that Sanford Cinder Company needed to continue operating and there was no alternative route for their trucks to get cinder in and out of the area. We understood that it was an emergency, short term situation.

Several months have now passed, the lava flow has stopped and the time has come for a more permanent solution.

Beach Road cannot continue to be the only route in and out of that area. It is unacceptable and it is potentially dangerous. The neighborhood streets in Hawaiian Shores Recreation area were never designed to sustain this kind of traffic...the roads are being destroyed and pedestrian safety is a serious and ongoing concern. In addition, people need who were displaced by the lava need access to their farms and homes so that they can begin rebuild their lives.

I respectfully urge you to move forward with the proposals outlined in SB 1298. It is time to do the right thing for the people of Puna.

Thank you.

Karla Bieschke

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 5:11:10 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dianna Hanson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am one of the property owners from Kapoho Farm Lots! I would like to see hwy 132 opened up. So many Are not able to access their properties along hwy 132.

This has been a heartbreaking past year for many of us. Our lives have been forever changed.

If begging would help, I'd do that.

Regards,

Dianna Hanson

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 1:30:52 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janet Taylor	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Many people need access to their homes and farms cut off by the lava crossing Highway 132 and their lives are in limbo. Please give the needed attention and priority to help this project move forward just as it was given to open access to Pohoiki and to PVG to serve those special interests.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 5:15:23 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
M. Eileen O'Hara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Esteemed Committee Members,

I am strongly in support of S 1298. I served as the Hawaii County Council Member of District 4 (Lower Puna) during the recent eruption and am very familiar with the area having lived and worked in Lower Puna for nearly 40 years. Hwy 132 is a life line for the area and for recovery to begin, this road needs to be reopened as soon as possible. There are 50-75 inaccessible homes that are still standing in mid-Kapoho where residents could return if Hwy 132 is recovered. There are 516 lot owners in Lower Kapoho who are requesting access. There are nearly a thousand households that previously used Hwy 132 as their main access (Noni Farms, Railroad, Cinder Road, Papaya Farms Road, Govt. Beach Rd, WaaWaa) who now must take a long detour that triples their commute times to work and school.

Plus, the Kapoho Cinder Pits which were not covered in lava continue to operate sending 50-60 heavy (65,000lbs+) trucks, M-S from 6:30AM to 6:00PM down the Govt. Beach Rd, across a privately held road owned by the Hawaiian Shores Community Assn (HOA) to reach a substandard County road. These trucks travel 6 miles through the 25mph residential neighborhood of Hawaiian Beaches/Shores where approximately 6,500 people live. This has become a major public safety issue. The Govt. Beach Rd has a narrow 10' wide asphalt surface and even the cinder truck drivers find the route unsafe. The extra time traveling to job sites has increased the cost of a load of cinder significantly, at a time when construction materials are needed for recovery.

Please pass SB1298. The Road to Recovery Begins with a Road.

Eileen O'Hara, Ph.D., Resource Economist

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 5:32:01 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carol Q. Galper, EdD	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please fund the bill to open Kaonohi road, it is an essential route on the Big Island that was overrun with lava this summer. This is a most worthy cause, please fund this!

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 5:45:35 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ralph Boyea	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

February 4, 2019

The Honorable Senator Lorraine Inouye
and Members for the Senate Transportation Committee,

I am hereby submitting testimony in favor of SB 1298.

SB 1298 Appropriates funds to the department of transportation for the purpose of reopening Highway 132, also known as Kapoho Road.

I know several Hawaii County residents who have homes and other property along Hwy 132. Those homes and properties were not lost with the recent eruption along the East Rift, however lava covering highway 132 created an impassible barrier, making it impossible to access these homes and properties.

Please pass SB 1298 and provide the necessary funds to reopen Hwy. 132.

Ralph C. Boyea

HC2 Box 5626

Keaau, HI 96749

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 6:32:50 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Allan Reaves	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Reopening Highway 132 is vital to recovery from the 2018 eruption disaster. The event is over! Many families need to return to their homes which were spared by the lava but they have no access. The county should stop dragging it's feet and allow those residents to get on with their lives. I have friends in Kapoho who I visit but the drive over there is nearly twice as long as it was with 132.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 7:36:27 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amber Ternus	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I believe that rebuilding infrastructure is critical for the economic recovery of the region. Please support access to homes, expansion of tourism and scenic driving, and the revitalization of all lower Puna. We need your financial support so that the local community can begin to do our part to help the region grow again.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 8:02:40 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Saturnino Doctor	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill to reopen Highway 132. Please make it happen so the property owners, farmers, and tourist can use this road again.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 8:09:49 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Support

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 9:28:51 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Strong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Open the road so all those that still HAVE a home may finally return to them. They've been through enough!!!! Mahalo Nui Loa

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 9:41:29 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ehulani Stephany	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 3:53:55 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lori Tetrault	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB1298 asking for \$15M to recover HWY 132 for dedicated funding to recover Hwy 132 - Kapoho -Pahoa Road is very important to ensure the **safety** of our neighborhood on Papio Street and the surrounding neighborhoods. I am in full support of passing this legislation.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 6:11:57 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kathryn Kuhlman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 7:23:55 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Allison	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support opening the road (132) for all the people who need to get back to their homes. I need the opportunity to get to my property in order to decide my next steps. Thank you for your consideration.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 7:28:35 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Antoinette Allison	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support opening Highway 132 for all the people who have homes to go back to. I want the opportunity to get to my three acres, so I can make future plans. Thank you for your consideration.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 9:05:03 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 11:49:21 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leila Kealoha	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Leila Kealoha and I would like to ask for your support with SB1298. The residents of lower Puna have suffered great loss in the last year. There are still numerous residents who are still suffering. We need to help those who still have homes, businesses and farms that are inaccessible. HWY 132 is the access that will help these people return home and to work. It is imperative that we help these people to return home. It's been long enough that they have had to wait. Also, I am sure that many of you have enjoyed a Papaya and some orchids in your lifetimes and this area is most likely where these have come from. Please support our people and help them get back home. Mahalo Nui loa for your time and consideration.

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 10:35:07 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Phil Barnes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 11:08:31 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Larry Obermann	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This is a major highway that provides access to undamaged houses and property that needs to be repaired asap. There are also individuals who would like to return to their property in Kapoho and start over.

Thank You

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 11:05:52 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Betty Oberman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please open our roads Hwy.132 and Hwy.137. I have lost my home but I still own my property. I lived in Vacationland since 2000, I have served on several committees and I am still on the Water Board. I have also served as Neighborhood Watch for more than 10 yrs.

We know the area was bare before and is now, but we are wanting to continue to rebuild Vacationland. It will never be the same in our life time but with out access we can not try. Vacationland is all private property from 137 AKA Red Road. We have the resources to try to clear for access to get to our lots. We'll take one step at a time. We just need approval to try to safely get to our lots.

Let us Recover

Respectfully Betty Oberman

TMK 3-1-4-70-50,51,52

LATE

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 3:52:47 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Penny Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this bill. The road to recovery begins with a "road"! Thank you for your time.

LATE

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 3:57:54 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dennis Doland	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We are a family of six -- mom, dad, and 4 teenage boys. We have lived off of Hwy 132 near the 4.5 mile marker since Nov 2013. In May 2018 we had to leave Puna because of the eruption. Our house still stands, but we have no road access. We very much want to get back to our home so we can again raise livestock, tend our fruit trees and garden, repair and maintain our home and outbuildings, and live in Hawaii! We have a lot of time and money invested in our home, and we have faithfully paid tens of thousands in property taxes since 2013. Please use available funds to repair Highway 132! Mahalo!

LATE

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 7:29:23 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul D Crawford	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Opening Highway 132 will end the dangerous traffic conditions on Govt. Beach Rd, caused by the cinder trucks sharing one lane with the general public. Also the flow of tourists accessing the new black sand beach at the light house is growing to dangerous levels. There is simply no parking at the end of Beach Rd to accomodate them, and their driving experience is not up to sharing a one lane road. I have a wrecked car to show for that. Speeding, failure to give way when they have the turn out, and coming through blind curves, and hills on the wrong side of the road, are all examples of what the locals face every day on the Beach Rd. Somebody is eventually going to get killed. We lost the Kapoho Tide Pools, we now have a black sand beach.

Let's get the tourists to it safely, and get on with the Puna Recovery.

Thank you,

Paul Crawford

LATE

From: [Tiffany Edwards Hunt](#)
To: [TRSTestimony](#)
Subject: SB 1298
Date: Tuesday, February 5, 2019 7:53:29 PM

Aloha from the Island of Hawaii ,

My name is Tiffany Edwards Hunt, and I live in Puna. I am actually one of many people who lost their homes in the Kilauea eruption last year. Unfortunately, I do not have a home to go back to; we have to start all over, from the ground up, in a new neighborhood.

I know there are dozens of people who do and the only thing stopping them is access. My very best friend and her family are living in an apartment in Hilo and their 5000 square-foot home is completely inaccessible due to lava on Highway 132. I am hoping that officials will find a way to fund access for Highway 132 and even Highway 137. The Big Island has proven that we can live with lava and, hopefully with matching Federal Highway funds, you can find a way to re-open this major arterial road that is Highway 132. I really urge you to please do everything you can, so that people like my best friend can be able to get home as soon as possible. Thank you so much for your consideration, and I wish you all the best this legislative session.

Aloha,
Tiffany Edwards Hunt & ohana

\m^m/
aloha

LATE

From: [KITTY MARTIN](#)
To: [TRSTestimony](#)
Subject: ROAD ACCESS REQUEST
Date: Tuesday, February 5, 2019 11:21:52 PM

Aloha from the Big Island of Hawaii,

My name is Kathryn (Kitty) Martin. I live in the Puna district of Hawaii Island, in Opihikao. My husband and I evacuated from our farm due to harsh SO₂ gases. Fortunately, we did not lose our land and access to it was quickly restored.

I know of many people whose homes are within the inundation area, but were spared from lava overflow. How fortunate they would be if only they could return to their homes and farms. If only they could resume their previous productive lives. If only the roads to them were clear to traverse. If only.

In fact, our very good friends, the @George Douvris family, cannot return home until access is provided. Their house burned to the ground but they can't begin to rebuild until they can get materials to the site. Family members are scattered about the island and elsewhere trying their best to hold things together. The family home sites are inaccessible due to lava on Highway 132. Getting in there is an hour and a half rugged hike.

I pray that officials will find a way to provide access for Highway 132, and even Highway 137. Hopefully, together with matching Federal Highway funds, you will find a way to re-open this major roadway, Highway 132, and alleviate the homelessness this eruption has wrought. Timeliness on this issue is critical.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. I wish you every success this legislative session.

Aloha,

Kitty Martin
13-6274 Kapoho-Kalapana Rd.
Opihikao HI

LATE

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 2:44:48 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Biltoft	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support SB1298 and the re-opening of County Highway 132. Although this is a Hawaii County road, I hope that the State of Hawaii will be willing to do its part to re-open roads recently obstructed by lava, to include Highway 132. Highway 132 is a crucial link to the remaining pukas and to the lava-covered lands that owners wish to access. Re-opening access to the 4-Corners area would also provide access to Cape Kumukahi and its lighthouse. If Lower Puna is to recover from the 2018 devastation, state and federal agencies must do their part to re-open lines of access and communication. The road to recovery begins with a road.

Thank you for your consideration,

Christopher Biltoft, Lower Puna Resident

biltoftc@yahoo.com

LATE

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 12:09:13 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jane Hedtke	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We lost our commercial citrus farm in the eruption. Have farmed there since 1980. All of the 7 acre property was covered. My hope is that someday my sons will be able to return to the property on HWY 132, to reclaim it in their lifetime. Our family is scattered and suffering, please appropriate funds to reopen the access for so many who still have a standing home and those who want to keep their farms. Mahalo, Jane Hedtke

SB-1298

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 12:59:41 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/6/2019 1:15:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrena White	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please open up hwy 132 in Kaopho. We cant get back to our home.