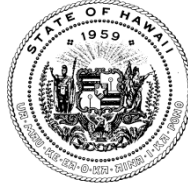


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



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

LATE

S.B. 1517
RELATING TO THE KUAKINI HIGHWAY

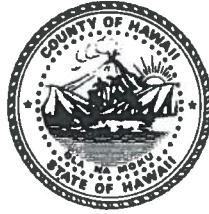
Senate Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** this bill, and offers the following comments:

1. The bill does not replace our priorities requested in the Executive Budget.
2. The limits be extended from Lako Street to Henry Street to consider a continuous four-lane highway.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

REBECCA VILLEGAS
Council Member
District 7, Central Kona



PHONE: (808) 323-4267
FAX: (808) 323-4786
EMAIL: Rebecca.villegas@hawaiicounty.gov

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740

February 5, 2019

TESTIMONY OF REBECCA VILLEGAS
COUNCIL MEMBER, HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL
ON SB 1517, RELATING TO THE KUAKINI HIGHWAY

Committee on Transportation

Wednesday, February 6, 2019

1:15 p.m.

Conference Room 225

Aloha Chair Inouye and Members of the Committee:

I thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 1517, relating to the Kuakini Highway. My testimony is submitted by my individual capacity as a member of the Hawai'i County Council and Chair of the Committee on Public Safety.

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Transportation to widen Kuakini Highway between Lako Street and Kamehameha III Road on the island of Hawai'i.

The widening of Kuakini Highway is needed to provide not only additional safety measures, but to also update the road to provide efficiency as there is consistently more traffic that travels on Kuakini Highway every day.

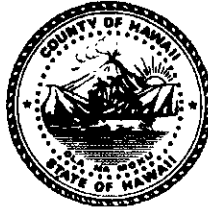
For the reasons stated above, I urge the Committee on Transportation to support this measure as well. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 323-4267.

Mahalo for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebecca Villegas".

Rebecca Villegas
Council Member, Hawai'i County Council

Harry Kim
Mayor



Wil Okabe
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow
Deputy Managing Director

LATE

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 6, 2019

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
Hawai'i State Legislature

Dear Chair Inouye and Committee members:

RE: SB 1517, RELATING TO THE KUAKINI HIGHWAY

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 1517.

There naturally has been much focus on disaster relief for the Puna District on the Big Island, which we think is deserved and for which we are grateful. Nevertheless, life on the rest of Hawaii Island continues apace, including population growth and the difficulties generated by too much traffic.

West Hawaii has benefited tremendously from the recent widening of Queen Kaahumanu Highway, but the traffic crawl on Kuakini Highway, between Lako Street and Kamehameha III Road, can be maddening. Our Senator has rightly identified this area as a high priority, and I know the community will be appreciative of any assistance you can offer.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Harry Kim
Mayor