

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 4, 2019
1:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 225

S.B. 565
RELATING TO VISION ZERO

Senate Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports the intent of S.B. 565**, but submits the following as its comments on said bill:

DOT, and our partners, lead the development of Hawaii's Strategic Highway Safety Plan. The plan was a collaboration that involved traffic safety, public safety and public health experts from government, the private sector and community groups statewide. The strategies were developed through meetings of a broad group of stakeholders consisting of more than 150 representatives of local, state, federal and community organizations.

As with Vision Zero, the Hawaii Strategic Highway Safety Plan has the vision that all Hawaii's road users arrive safely at their destinations.

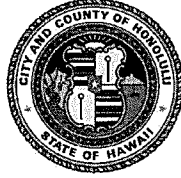
DOT strongly believes that a strong multifaceted approach using legislation, enforcement and education is what is necessary to reduce the number of fatalities and injuries that are occurring on our State's roads. Furthermore, strong community and legislative support, in addition to establishing stronger laws, will result in the reduction of motor vehicle fatalities and injuries.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



WES FRYSZTACKI
DIRECTOR

JON Y. NOUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 4, 2019

The Honorable Lorraine Inouye
and Members of the Senate
Committee on Transportation
State Capitol, Room 423
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Inouye and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: Testimony on Senate Bill 565 - Relating to Vision Zero

The Department of Transportation Services supports the intent of this measure, and recognizes Vision Zero as a proven approach to prevent and ultimately eliminate traffic fatalities in Hawaii. Vision Zero is a welcomed departure from the status quo because it relies on data-driven strategies and places urgency and accountability on system designers and policymakers.

Vision Zero is a priority of the City and County of Honolulu. Our department is already implementing Vision Zero strategies through its Complete Streets Program and proposes a Vision Zero Action Plan to the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization to identify high crash locations, prioritize projects, and develop educational materials. The City Council has also adopted Resolution 18-219, *Urging the City Administration to Adopt the Goals, Strategies, and Policies of Vision Zero*.

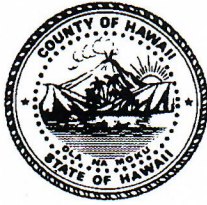
Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Frysztacki", is written over the typed name.

Wes Frysztacki
Director

From the office of -
Council Member
District 3



Office: (808) 961-8396
Fax: (808) 961-8912
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SUSAN L.K. LEE LOY
25 Aupuni Street, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

The Honorable Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
And members of the Committee on Transportation

February 1, 2019

Dear Chair Inouye and Committee Members,

I thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of SB 565, requiring the Department of Transportation and the counties to adopt a Vision Zero policy with the ultimate goal of preventing and eliminating all traffic fatalities.

Mayor Harry Kim is issuing a Vision Zero proclamation today, and the Hawai'i County Council's Public Works and Mass Transit Committee will take up the attached Resolution No. 38-19 adopting the goals, policies, and strategies of Vision Zero on February 4, with possible Council approval at its February 20 meeting.

Hawai'i County would then become the second county in our State to commit to Vision Zero, after Maui County in 2018. We would then welcome the State to work toward this laudable goal "to provide safe roads, as many fatalities occur on state highways," as SB 565 states.

This has been a tragic week for pedestrians on Hawai'i roads. Any steps that the State and the Counties can take to reduce the number of future victims will be welcome.

Aloha Piha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sue Lee Loy".

Sue Lee Loy
Council Member, District 3

Att: Resolution No. 38-19

VALERIE T. POINDEXTER

*Council Member
Chair, Committee on Parks and Recreation
Council District 1*



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HAWAII COUNTY COUNCIL

*County of Hawai'i
Hawai'i County Building
25 Aupuni Street, Suite 1402
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720*

LATE

February 4, 2019

Committee on Transportation
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senator Breen Harimoto, Vice Chair

Email: seninouye@capitol.hawaii.gov
Email: senharimoto@capitol.hawaii.gov

Subject: Testimony Supporting SB565, Relating to Vision Zero

Hearing: February 4, 2019, 1:15 p.m., Conference Room 225

Dear Chair Inouye and Vice Chair Harimoto:

On behalf of myself and the constituents of Council District 1, Hāmākua, County of Hawai'i, I would like to express our support of SB565, and submit a brief testimony as follows:

This bill requires the Department of Transportation to implement a vision zero program in Hawai'i by 7/1/2020. Establishes a goal of no traffic fatalities or serious injuries by 2030.

I strongly support and urge the enactment of SB565. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Valerie T. Poindexter

SB-565

Submitted on: 2/1/2019 5:11:33 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/4/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tommy Noyes	Testifying for Kauai Path, Inc.	Support	No

Comments:

Strong support for SB565

Aloha Members of the Senate Committee on Transportation.

Roadway violence is preventable, as demonstrated by communities where officials and residents have implemented proven countermeasures. Hawaii has a shameful record of deaths on our streets. In 2018 for the first time there were more pedestrians killed by motor vehicles than fatalities among motor vehicle occupants (Hawaii News Now, January 3, 2019), and our kupuna are needlessly at risk for their safety and their lives on our streets.

We can and must do better.

Please advance Senate Bill 565 intact so that together we can begin to reverse this preventable and deplorable travesty systematically with appropriate funding and resolute political will.

Mahalo, Tommy Noyes, Executive Director, Kauai Path, Inc.

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February 1, 2019

Testimony Supporting SB565

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Harimoto, and esteemed members of the Committee on Transportation:

Hawaii Bicycling League strongly supports Snenat Bill 565, which makes Vision Zero the policy of the State and require the Hawaii Department of Transportation to develop a plan to achieve zero traffic deaths by 2030.

One-hundred and seventeen people died on Hawaii's streets in 2018. This was part of an ongoing epidemic of traffic violence. In 2017, 106 people died and in 2015 120 people died. Every one of these deaths is a preventable tragedy. This is, in the clearest of terms, a crisis facing our community. We deserve safety and we need bold action to stop traffic deaths and serious injuries.

Vision Zero is a bold policy declaration that we will not accept traffic deaths and that we can and must act to stop traffic deaths. The bold statement of Vision Zero must be backed by equally bold actions – dedicating resources to better understanding where and how traffic deaths and serious injuries are occurring, developing clear and specific plans for engineering, enforcement, and education actions, and most importantly, the resources to implement with the speed and urgency knowing that lives depend on it.

Thank you very much for considering the comments of Hawaii Bicycling League. If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please contact Daniel Alexander (808-275-6717, Daniel@hbl.org) or Chad Taniguchi (808-255-8271).

Ride and Drive Aloha,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Daniel Alexander".

Daniel Alexander
Co-Executive Director
Hawaii Bicycling League

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chad Taniguchi".

Chad Taniguchi
Director Emeritus
Hawaii Bicycling League



O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair

Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair

DATE: Monday, February 4, 2019

TIME: 1:15 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 225, State Capitol

RE: SB 565 Relating to Vision Zero

Aloha mai kakou Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Harimoto, and Members of the Committee on Transportation:

The O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities (OCCLP) of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i (DPH) hereby submits its testimony in **SUPPORT of SB 565 relating to Vision Zero.**

SB 565 provides that the department of transportation shall implement a vision zero program by July 1, 2020 where the goal of the vision zero program shall be to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries in Hawaii by 2030. The department of transportation, in conjunction with the counties, shall take the necessary steps to implement the program.

DPH supports safety and security in all dimensions as a basic function of government. DPH supports just law enforcement and enhancement of crime prevention, without compromising civil liberties. *Democratic Party of Hawai`i Platform (2018), p. 20, ln. 21-22.*

For the foregoing reasons, i.e., to support safety and security in all dimensions as a basic function of government, OCCLP supports SB 565 and urges its passage out of the Committee on Transportation.

Mahalo nui loa

Me ka `oia`i`o

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja

Chair, O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities
of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i

February 3, 2019

LATE

RE: Support **SB 565** Relating to Vision Zero

Chair Inouye, Vice-Chair Harimoto, and Members of the Transportation Committee:

Mahalo for hearing this measure that calls for better ways to address the tragic deaths on our state and local roads. We support SB 565.

Brought to Hawaii by HMSA, Blue Zones Project helps increase the overall well-being of our communities to make Hawaii a healthier, happier place to live, work, and play. To accomplish that goal, we address ways to lower obesity rates, tobacco use, and chronic diseases.

At Blue Zones, we support people moving naturally throughout their day. Currently, our shared public right of ways discourage natural movement. In 2018, 43 pedestrians were killed compared to 38 motorists, and in total road deaths, 117 people were killed. There needs to be a radical, comprehensive, systematic approach to addressing safety on our roads. By working together, we can increase the safety for all road users. Vision Zero is a holistic approach to safety through the implementation policies, use data, effective street design, driver education, and pedestrian awareness.

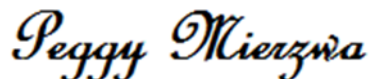
Vision Zero approach identifies the places where the highest incidences of fatalities occur, and then utilizes polices and best practices to systematically address the deadly situations. Our roadways need to be made safe for our most vulnerable users. The counties have already started this work.

This bill requires the state to implement Vision Zero and work toward the elimination of traffic deaths. It calls for working in conjunction with the counties. This communication piece is vital to ensure success. The collaborative nature of Vision Zero is part of its success. Government working with highly invested groups such as law enforcement and AARP, as well as other community groups, to identify systematic and policy changes to change the current trend.

The time has come to more effectively address road safety. Many people have been working together to achieve a safer community. This measure is another step toward success.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in support of SB565.

Sincerely,



Peggy Mierzwa
Statewide Policy Lead—Hawaii Blue Zones Project

Brought to
Hawaii by



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

LATE

I am writing in support of SB 565. In 2014, Karl Hagen was fatally struck while cycling on the shoulder of Pi'ilani Highway. This tragedy, along with other traffic accidents, has started a critical initiative to bring a national campaign – Vision Zero – to Maui County. This national collaborative campaign seeks to increase, safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all.

On September 15th of 2018, Blue Zones Project Central Maui hosted Maui's Vision Zero launch with a gathering in Kalama Park to celebrate the Mayor's Vision Zero proclamation, followed by a 5-mile memorial bike ride through Kihei led by Maui Bicycling League.

Blue Zones Project and Healthy Eating Active Living Coalition are partners in the Vision Zero Launch and ongoing advocacy. As a statewide partner in support of Vision Zero, we know it pays to invest in walking, biking and transit, which essentially equal more active, healthier communities. Vision Zero ensures our community will approach these efforts with safety as the priority. Streets that are safer for walking and biking help create healthier communities by encouraging people to use active transportation. Our commitment to Vision Zero has brought together elected leaders, engineers, police, and community members to move toward the goal of zero traffic fatalities on Maui by 2040.

Citizens, agencies, and elected officials all play important roles in promoting road safety. Vision Zero is based on the idea that traffic deaths are preventable through coordinated engineering, enforcement and education. Designing roads to slow vehicles down and give people walking and biking safe alternatives will reduce the chance that a human mistake leads to death.

Please support SB 565. Mahalo for your consideration.

Laksmi Abraham, Community Program Manager
Blue Zones Project – Central Maui

SB-565

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 9:28:49 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/4/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and esteemed members of the Committee on Transportation:

My name is Kevin Gendrano, and I strongly support House Bill 757 that requires the state Department of Transportation and county transportation departments to adopt the Vision Zero policy.

I am a father of 3 young children between the ages 2-6 and I would like to prevent any tragedy if there are proactive measures in place to improve the safety of our pedestrians. I think about growing up in Hawaii, when my neighborhood was not as overcrowded. We could play and ride our bikes and race down our hill. That no longer is not an option because now people are rushing to baseball, soccer or football practices. People are rushing to their Tee times at the private course down the road.

I understand these very well, because I'm one of these parents too. We're all human and I think no matter how disciplined we are, how much it can be on our conscious at times, we're human, and we can still make have a slip up from time to time. I just hope its not a tragic mistake.

This day and age more and more accidents are happening because the distraction of the millennial world. I believe adopting a Vision Zero policy that other countries and cities have already implemented has prevented many senseless accidents from happening.

So I support House Bill 757 because we need newer policies to adjust for a changing world and prevent avoidable tragedies especially for our Keiki. Thank you for considering my testimony and I hope you will continue to support House Bill 757.

Sincerely,

Kevin. T. Gendrano

SB-565

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 11:51:00 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/4/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anthony Chang	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice-Chair Harimoto, other members of the esteemed Senate Committee on Transportation

My name is Anthony Chang and I stand in strong support Senate Bill 565 Six years this March my sister, Emelia Hung, who was 24 years old, was struck by a car and died not far from here.

Vehicle collisions are the leading cause of violent physical death in Hawaii, United States, and the world in general, with Hawaii having one of the highest pedestrian fatality rates in the U.S., killing more people than guns. When Vision Zero is implemented in other cities in the United States and around the world, one of things people ask first is how many pedestrian fatalities is acceptable. People of course will say a number. But then advocates ask next, how many members of your immediate family are you okay with being hit by a car, everyone says zero. And every single person who gets hit is someone's immediate family member, all of their deaths are tragic.

In honor of my sister's memory, I'm currently a graduate student studying Urban Planning at University of Hawaii, with a specific focus on walkability, sustainable transportation, and travel safety.

If you have further questions feel free to ask me or contact me anytime.

SB-565

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 3:34:24 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/4/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kevin m. kaneko	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-565

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 11:21:47 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/4/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

Vision Zero is a promising approach in preventing traffic-related fatalities, beginning with a basic assumption that people will sometimes make mistakes and systems need to be designed and engineered to account for that. Vision Zero also emphasizes the important dimensions of enforcement and education. Passing this bill will promote collaboration between the state and the counties and also mutual support and learning among all Vision Zero states and municipalities. We don't need any more examples to underscore the need to envision and pursue zero traffic-related fatalities on our roads. Thank you.

SB-565

Submitted on: 2/1/2019 5:18:36 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/4/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura Owen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Although I've been living in Hawaii for 6 years now, I am originally from New York City. New York, as you probably know, has implemented a vision zero policy. In all my years of living (and being a pedestrian, as is most common there) in NYC, I was hit by a car 1 time. By the time I had lived in Hawai'i 1 year, I'd been hit twice, and of course in 6 years of walking and running that number has multiplied. Hawai'i has a dangerous, entitled, driver-centric culture that results in many dangerous confrontations and many deaths.

Believe me, New York's vision zero policy has made a big difference, and it is a very safe city. For example, right-on-red is illegal in New York, and the difference that policy has on not only safety, but the driver culture in its entirety, is probably something you can't understand without living there. No one believes they have a right to run a red light with stopping, simply because they're turning right. That contributes to the understanding that no one has a right to run a red light, period. Or a stop sign. It also contributes to the understanding that intersections take time - drivers know they have to stop, look, and play a role in keeping the street safe and efficient. Another example is the "block the box" law - if you run through a red light and block the intersection, the fine is large but you get points on your license. And enough points means no more license, ever.

Meanwhile, here in Hawai'i, the biggest issue I'm having now is male drivers who harass me from their cars, often for blocks, after they've almost hit me in a crosswalk because they didn't plan to stop at a stop sign or corner. So after I've had to jump out of the way of their cars, they circle back to scream profanities, throw things at me, or drive along yelling. This is not only embarrassing and dangerous, but to me demonstrates the incredibly great distance Hawai'i has to go in making this culture safe for everyone who wants to use the roads. After being hit by a cop in the King Street bike lane, who curse at me and drove away, I don't ride a bike at all anymore.

Please consider this important beginning to changing the driver culture here. I guarantee it will make Hawai'i a lovely place, where all people have respect for each other and care about the safety and life of everyone on the streets.

LATE

SB-565

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 8:48:41 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/4/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Theresa Paulette	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice-Chair Hashimoto and esteemed members of the Committee on Transportation.

I support SB 565 to require the State Department of Transportation and County transportation departments to establish a task force to assess and create recommendations to attain a "Vision Zero" policy. This policy boldly states traffic fatalities and serious injuries are not acceptable and the public deserves safety on our roadways.

As a victim of impaired driving, I support SB565 which urges the State to take bold action and dedicate resources to eliminate preventable traffic deaths and injuries and adopt the policy of "Vision Zero."

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Theresa Paulette