



TESTIMONY BY:

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

February 5, 2020
10:15 A.M.
State Capitol, Room 423

H.B. 2566
RELATING TO TRAFFIC SAFETY

House Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports with recommended amendment** H.B. 2566 which requires vehicles on certain areas of Hana highway, behind which a certain number of vehicles are formed in a line, to use turnouts on the highway to let those other vehicles proceed when passing is unsafe.

We request SECTION 2.(d) be revised to read as follows:

(d) Upon any two-lane roadway providing for two-way movement of traffic, any vehicle proceeding at less than the speed limit where passing or overtaking another vehicle is not possible or permitted, and a line of five or more vehicles following immediately behind, shall move off the roadway at the nearest location where sufficient space exists for trailing vehicles to overtake.

This revision will improve operational efficiency and minimize road rage statewide. Additionally, the DOT cannot erect signs to direct motorists to use areas when we do not own the right-of-way like along Hana Highway.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
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Director of Council Services
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COUNTY COUNCIL
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February 3, 2020

TO: The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
House Committee on Transportation

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 5, 2020; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
HB 2566, RELATING TO TRAFFIC SAFETY**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this bill is to promote traffic safety on Hāna Highway by requiring drivers of lead vehicles between mile markers 00 and 34, to use turnouts and allow vehicles to pass under certain circumstances.

Legislation with a similar purpose is included in the Maui County's Legislative Package; however, the Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. Unsafe driving conditions may be created on two-lane roadways where the lead vehicle is moving slowly, with a backup of vehicles behind it, and traffic moving in the opposite direction makes it hazardous to pass. This situation is frequently encountered on the road to Hāna, where visibility around turns is inhibited.
2. Requiring the driver of the lead vehicle with five or more vehicles behind it to turn off the roadway will help to prevent collisions.

For the foregoing reasons, the Maui County Council **supports** this measure.



LATE

Date: February 4, 2020

To: Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
Honorable Troy Hashimoto, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the House Committee on Transportation

Re: Support for HB2566 Relating to Traffic Safety

Hrg: February 5, 2020 at 10:15am at Conference Room 423

The Maui MPO Policy Board is in **support of HB2566** to require the driver of a lead vehicle on the Hāna Highway between mile markers 00 and 34 to use turnouts and allow vehicles to pass under certain circumstances.

In December 2019, Maui MPO Policy Board adopted the Hele Mai Maui 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan developed from previous plans and public input to create a list of priority projects and programs to help achieve the island's vision for safety, resilience, and affordability. One of the top issues Maui MPO heard about from the public was the need for better visitor management and safety solutions for congested areas like Hāna Highway.

At times, over 4,000 vehicles per day travel the narrow, winding road to Hāna. Residents accessing work and other necessities are mixed in with visitors unfamiliar with the area, leading to tensions and unsafe driving conditions. This measure seeks to alleviate safety issues by requiring drivers to use turnouts and allow other vehicles to pass. Combined with improved signage and efforts to manage the number of vehicles, this measure can help make the road to Hāna a safe and peaceful experience for residents and visitors alike.

Please support HB2566 to improve safety on Hāna Highway.

HB-2566

Submitted on: 2/3/2020 3:07:31 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/5/2020 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

How about some funding for real turnouts & signage indicating where they are? As it stands, it's mostly a guessing game especially for tourist and the pullouts are often too small to safely and quickly pull into. Obviously increasing pullout size is a challenge on both side of the Hana Hywy. Where it can be done, it should be as big as possible to accommodate several cars and / or a "rolling" pullout.

That said, this should also be done on the "back side" i.e. Kaupo etc...