



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

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

LATE

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

Wednesday, January 30, 2019
10:30 A.M.
State Capitol, Room 430

H.B. 992
RELATING TO EXEMPTIONS FROM REGISTRATION FEES

House Committee on Public Safety, Veterans and Military Affairs

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

This bill seeks to expand the exemption from payment of vehicle registration fees for disabled veterans residing in Hawaii with a 100-percent disability rating, to include those who are pre-retired. Nevertheless, revisions currently included in this bill do not seem to meet that intent as HRS 249-31.5(4) has not been stricken; if deleted, it would result in an approximate \$118,000 decrease in vehicle registration revenues. The DOT generally does not support exemptions as reductions in revenue are detrimental to the health of the State Highway Fund; however, we recognize that these exemptions will assist our disabled veterans, and thus, we support this measure.

We also note that addition of language, "...and the tax imposed under this chapter" may not meet with any increased benefit to disabled veterans, as taxes noted are not authorized under HRS 249-31.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.