



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

June 25, 2020
12:31 P.M.
State Capitol, Room 016

**S.R. 124
URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS, DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION HIGHWAYS DIVISION, AND HAWAII COUNTY TO
COLLECTIVELY DEVELOP A PLAN TO IMPROVE MEALANI ROAD AND
ESTABLISH A PROTOCOL TO USE MEALANI ROAD AS AN EMERGENCY
BYPASS ROUTE WHEN MAMALAHOA HIGHWAY IS INACCESSIBLE.**

Senate Committee(s) on Hawaiian Affairs and Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** S.R. 124 and offers comments. S.R. 124 requests urges the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL), DOT Highways Division, and Hawaii County to collectively develop a plan to improve Mealani Road and establish a protocol to use Mealani as an emergency bypass route when Mamalahoa Highway is inaccessible.

The DOT supports an emergency bypass route. The DOT has identified safety and preservation as being the highest priority. For transportation safety purposes, DOT will work with DHHL connecting the bypass route to the State Highway system.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN
LT. GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII



WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

TYLER I. GOMES
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS**

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM J. AILA, JR, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS AND
TRANSPORTATION
HEARING ON JUNE 25, 2020 AT 12:31PM IN CR 016

**SR 124 URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS, DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION HIGHWAYS DIVISION, AND HAWAII COUNTY TO
COLLECTIVELY DEVELOP A PLAN TO IMPROVE MEALANI ROAD AND
ESTABLISH A PROTOCOL TO USE MEALANI ROAD AS AN EMERGENCY
BYPASS ROUTE WHEN MAMALAHOA HIGHWAY IS INACCESSIBLE**

June 24, 2020

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Chair Inouye, and members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to present written testimony on SR 124. This resolution urges the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL), to develop with the County of Hawaii and the Highways Division of the Department of Transportation, a protocol to use Mealani Road as an emergency route should Mamalahoa Highway become inaccessible.

The Department is in support of emergency transit planning for the Waimea community of Hawaii island. We have already been in discussion with the County of Hawaii. Besides funding, the primary concern that should be addressed is traffic control during emergency use of Mealani Road. Hawaii County enforcement of speeding, driving/passing on the shoulder, and negative impacts to the Hawaiian Homes communities is the primary concern. The protocol should also ensure that beneficiaries who are directly, or indirectly impacted, are consulted in the planning process and prior to any decision being made by the various agencies.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

SR-124

Submitted on: 6/23/2020 3:30:09 PM

Testimony for HWN on 6/25/2020 12:31:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rayne Kauhi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: