

TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN
DEREK J. CHOW
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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 16, 2021
2:00 P.M.
State Capitol
Conference Room 325
VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE

H. B. 1055 H.D. 1
RELATING TO HIGHWAYS

House Committee on Transportation

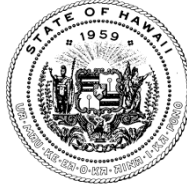
The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.B. 1055 H.D. 1 which authorizes the director of the department of transportation to acquire real property in the name of the State of Hawaii for roads and streets, without review or approval by the board of land and natural resources. The legislation will also recommend that the DOT be granted jurisdiction immediately upon acquisition of such real property, thereby eliminating the necessity of an executive order to transfer jurisdiction of the property from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the DOT and reduce the amount of time to acquire the real property.

The DOT Highways division provides a critical network of highways and roads that serves Hawaii's communities, land uses, and economy. Federal aid funds are pumped into various projects so long as they keep moving through the project delivery process. Additional federal funds are available to States that show the need and the ability to efficiently move projects through the development processes and implement quickly. As such, we continue to seek inefficiencies in processes to minimize delays and maximize accountability. The Board of Land and Natural Resources process does not provide any significant value to the Highways acquisition process, and the time saved will help move projects faster. The Highways division strives for transparency by posting progress reports on major highway projects to its website, presenting information on future projects at neighborhood board meetings, and encourages community feedback.

Exempting the DOT from review or approval by the Land Board will expedite the project delivery process and effectively utilize federal aid money to give the Highways division full management and control of the properties necessary to improve our public roads and streets in a more timely fashion.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



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February 16, 2021
2:00 P.M.
State Capitol, Teleconference

H. B. 1055, H.D. 1
RELATING TO HIGHWAYS

House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **strongly supports** H.B. 1055, H.D. 1 which authorizes the director of the department of transportation to acquire real property in the name of the State of Hawaii for roads and streets, without review or approval by the board of land and natural resources. The legislation will also recommend that the DOT be granted jurisdiction immediately upon acquisition of such real property, thereby eliminating the necessity of an executive order to transfer jurisdiction of the property from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the DOT and reduce the amount of time to acquire the real property.

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