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

March 16, 2021  
3:00 P.M.  
State Capitol, Teleconference

**H.B. 1081, H.D. 1**  
**RELATING TO SIDEWALKS**

Senate Committee on Transportation

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.B. 1081, H.D. 1, and offers comments. H.B. 1081, H.D. 1 requires the DOT and each county's transportation department to create and maintain a priority list of sidewalk installation and improvement projects and to publish the priority list on their respective websites.

The DOT supports efforts to improve the pedestrian network. We already have a comprehensive process in place to improve and maintain not only sidewalks, but the DOT's pedestrian network. The DOT's nationally recognized Statewide Pedestrian Master Plan reviewed existing conditions in the DOT's pedestrian network, including the location of facilities (e.g., sidewalks and shared use paths), pedestrian attractors, transit routes, census characteristics, and safety data. Based on existing conditions and input from the public and stakeholders, the project team identified thirty areas of concern and developed recommendations for improving those areas. The DOT has implemented half of the top ten project recommendations. In addition to the Statewide Pedestrian Master Plan, the DOT has existing maintenance contracts for its sidewalk network and maintains a complaint hotline and log for the public to use to notify the DOT of concerns on the DOT system.

The DOT is concerned that the bill's focus on sidewalks would inadvertently exclude rural areas that prefer not to have sidewalks/curb and gutter and prefer instead facilities such as shared use paths that are more consistent with the context of the location.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



WAIKIKI NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 9

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The Waikiki Neighborhood Board supports the concept of the following bill: HB1081 HD 1

At the February 9, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Waikiki Neighborhood Board the Board voted in favor of the concept of this bill.

This Bill would seem to support issues like Complete Streets implantation and require Counties to plan for future construction and funding for critical pedestrian and transportation safety.

Changes to the initial bill do not impact the support of the WNB but may be difficult and require additional funding for Counties.

*Robert J. Finley*

Robert J. Finley

Chair

**HB-1081-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2021 11:24:30 AM

Testimony for TRS on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chad Taniguchi	Testifying for Hawaii Bicycling League	Support	No

Comments:

The Hawaii Bicycling League supports HB1081HD1 to have the state and counties plan for and inform the public on sidewalks it plans. Sidewalks provide a dedicated space for people who walk to be separated from car and bicycle users.

This is especially important in areas where people walking have been injured or killed because of lack of dedicated sidewalks. This bill will complement our Vision Zero and Complete Streets policies. It takes money and commitment to reach these goals.

The Hawaii Bicycling League supports safe access to our public roads for all users, with safety priorities for the most vulnerable users, those who walk, bike, take transit, and work on the roads.

Mahalo for passing this important bill.

**HB-1081-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/12/2021 5:27:38 PM

Testimony for TRS on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I definitely support HB1081. Sidewalks are an important aspect of overall transportation planning. Please pass this bill.

Mike Golojuch, Sr.

Member, Citizens Advisory Committee, Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

Date: March 16, 2021

To: The Honorable Senator Chris Lee Chair  
The Honorable Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Transportation

Regarding: Support of HB1081 HD1, Relating to Sidewalks

Hearing: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 3:00 PM; Room 224 & via videoconference

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**Position: Support**

Good afternoon, Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and members of the Senate Committee on Transportation. My name is Karissa DeWeerd, and I am currently pursuing my Master of Social Work from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa here in Honolulu. I support HB1081 HD1 requiring each county to create and maintain sidewalk installation and improvement projects.

As an aspiring social worker, I am committed to continually learning, exploring, and building community resources and assets. This is always important, but it is especially necessary during a pandemic. By passing HB1081 HD1, you will be promoting community wellness and safety here in Hawai'i.

According to the AARP, around 80% of Americans prefer communities with sidewalks.<sup>1</sup> They are considered great assets in communities and provide many benefits. One benefit of building and maintaining sidewalks is promoting an increase in community connectivity (i.e., between parks, local businesses, schools, etc.)<sup>2</sup> Additional resources by the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration state that sidewalks can also provide safety, reduce crashes, and promote physical activity.<sup>3</sup> By passing HB1081 HD1, you can show residents of Hawai'i that you care about their physical safety and wellbeing.

Sidewalks are an important asset to our communities here in Hawai'i, and data shows that they provide many benefits. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB1081 HD1.

Karissa DeWeerd

References:

<sup>1</sup> AARP (2014). *Sidewalks: A livability fact sheet* [fact sheet]. <https://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/livable-communities/livable-documents/documents-2014/Livability%20Fact%20Sheets/Sidewalks-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> AARP, supra. note 1.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration (2013). *Safety benefits of walkways, sidewalks, and paved shoulders*. Safety. [https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped\\_bike/tools\\_solve/walkways\\_trifold/](https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped_bike/tools_solve/walkways_trifold/)

**HB-1081-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2021 4:42:54 PM

Testimony for TRS on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John Rogers	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB1081 requiring the transportation departments to create and maintain a priority list of sidewalk installation and improvement projects. This requirement will produce an inventory of pedestrian facilities within the state and subsequently accentuate where pedestrian facilities are needed. This is an equity issue as many of our older neighborhoods do not have sidewalks. Smart Growth America states that between 2008 and 2017 drivers struck and killed 49,340 people who were walking on streets all across America, this is an increase of 35.4% over this time period. This legislation will facilitate upgrading our roadways so that they are safe for all users.

Thank You,

John Rogers

Ewa NB #23 Transportation Committee Chair