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

March 24, 2021
10:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Videoconference

S.B. 375, S.D. 2
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

House Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** this bill which requires the Department of Transportation to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of repairing or renovating the Kalaeloa Airport air traffic control tower.

Thank you for providing general funds needed to complete the study and we look forward to providing you with the information once the study is completed. We hope this study will provide everyone with valuable information about Kalaeloa Airport air traffic tower and the current status.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



MAKAKILO/KAPOLEI/HONOKAI HALE NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 34 NEIGHBORHOOD
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**Testimony of
Michael Ferreira
Chair, Transportation Committee**

Before the Senate Committee on

Ways and Means

**Wednesday, March 24, 2021
State Capitol, Conference Room 423 Via Videoconference**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 375, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION**

Senate Bill 349, Draft 1 proposes to require the Department of Transportation to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of repairing or renovating the Kalaeloa air traffic control tower.

The Kapolei Neighborhood Board Transportation Committee proposes to amend the bill to read:

SECTION 1. (a) Require Department of Transportation to apply for available FAA and federal grant funding to relocate and replace this World War II era tower with a new modern tower as the current tower in service is beyond its' economic and physical life; that the Air Traffic Controllers from the Hawaii Air National Guard are operating it under the FAA via waivers and that the current tower cannot accommodate the increase in air traffic now nor in the future when increased traffic loads from the military and general aviation nor be able to accommodate Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) capabilities currently in place at Honolulu International Airport. That Kalaeloa Airport tower is designated the backup tower for Honolulu International Airport yet is not equipped itself to perform that task in case of a natural or man-made disaster that may take the Honolulu International Airport tower out of service. This, to ensure the safety of those working in the air traffic control tower and the general aviation public in having air traffic service provided as well as the general public who needs this back up tower in the Kapolei community.

(b) The Department of Transportation shall submit a report of its findings and availability of federal funding, including any proposed legislation no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2022.

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ _____ or so much thereof as may be necessary for the fiscal year 2021-2022 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for the Department of Transportation to employ a grant writer to accomplish this legislative order to ensure the safety of those working at the tower, general aviation and the general public who benefits in a disaster.

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the Department of Transportation for the purposes of this Act.

Section 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2021

The Kapolei-Makakilo Neighborhood Board #34 Transportation Committee strongly supports this Bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments / testimony.

SB-375-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 9:31:46 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/24/2021 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Palehua Townhouse Association	Support	No

Comments:

We strongly support SB375. The repair, renovation, or building a new air traffic control tower at Kalaeloa Airport is long overdue. Please pass this bill. Thank you.



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LATE

March 23, 2021

The Honorable Henry Aquino
Chair, House Committee on Transportation
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room # 419
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Representative Aquino and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment regarding SB 375, relating to transportation. I write on behalf of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) the world's largest aviation organization, representing the general aviation interests of over 1,000 members in Hawai'i.

AOPA supports SB 375, legislation that would require the department of transportation to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of repairing or renovating the Kalaeloa airport air traffic control tower. If you have questions or require additional information, please contact me directly at 301-695-2228 or Melissa.McCaffrey@aopa.org.

Respectfully,

Melissa McCaffrey
Regional Manager, Government Affairs
Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association