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April 12, 2022
3:00 P.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 224/Teleconference

G.M. 842

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Highway Safety Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, GARETH SAKAKIDA, for a term to expire 06-30-2025.

Senate Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) in **strong support** for the nomination of Gareth Sakakida, to the State Highway Safety Council (SHSC).

Chapter 286-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, establishes the SHSC which advises the Governor on matters relating to the programs and activities of the state in the field of highway safety. The state has adjusted the makeup of the committee from a group that was primarily government officials and safety advocates, to one that includes cross sections of all users of the highway system in our community. We believe the Gubernatorial Nominees will bring knowledge, experience and passion that will add tremendously to a council that will advise the department on eliminating roadway fatalities while modernizing the system to meet the current and future needs of our state.

Mr. Sakakida currently serves as the Managing Director of the Hawaii Transportation Association, which is a private, non-profit trade organization serving the trucking and tour vehicle industries in Hawaii where promoting commercial motor vehicle safety is one of the main priorities. Mr. Sakakida works closely with the DOT, Public Utilities Commission, Department of Labor & Industrial Relations, and similar agencies at the county and federal levels to fulfill his mission.

Mr. Sakakida's experience with transport logistics, history with transport regulations, reach with transportation companies, and knowledge of the needs of the freight industry to ensure the safe and efficient movements of goods and services throughout our state will be a valuable addition to the SHSC.

The DOT respectfully requests that this Committee confirm Gareth Sakakida to the SHSC whose members serve without compensation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

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TESTIMONY TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION (TRS)

APRIL 12, 2022

**IN SUPPORT OF
GM 842 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Highway
Safety Council, Gubernatorial Nominee GARETH SAKAKIDA,
term to expire 6-30-2025**

The City and County of Honolulu Department of Transportation Services (DTS) supports the appointment of Mr. Gareth Sakakida to the State Highway Safety Council.

Safety for all users of roads and highways is paramount. DTS is responsible for promoting the safe, efficient, and effective use and operation of the City's streets, administering the City's bikeway, pedestrian and traffic safety education programs, and implementing Honolulu's Complete Streets and Vision Zero programs. The work of the State Highway Safety Council is aligned with the DTS mission and objectives related to traffic safety.

It is important this council is diverse and representative of all users of the state highways, and Mr. Sakakida will be an excellent addition to this group that is responsible for advising the Governor on all matters related to highway safety. Mr. Sakakida is the managing director of the Hawaii Transportation Association and brings forty years of experience of managing commercial ground transportation in Hawaii to the council. Through work at the association, Mr. Sakakida coordinates safety training and compliance for drivers and operators of freight delivery trucks and tour vehicles. The inclusion of this voice and experience on the State Highway Safety Council ensures the safety solutions are realistic and workable.

Thank you for consideration of this measure and for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

LATE

GM-842

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 9:58:10 PM

Testimony for TRS on 4/12/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chad K Taniguchi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm pleased to support Gareth Sakakida of HTA for the State Highway Safety Council. When I was an advocate with the Hawaii Bicycling League, we recognized that safety of people walking and bicycling depended on the training, skill, and care of professional drivers in addition to those who have a regular driver's license. Gareth was always willing to give us straight feedback and help facilitate meetings and trainings with HTA member businesses.

As I lobbied for laws and changes, I always sought Gareth out for his valuable opinion. If we are to reach Vision Zero, where no one dies or is seriously injured on our highways, we need the knowledge, cooperation, viewpoint and buy-in from all road users. We all have a common goal.