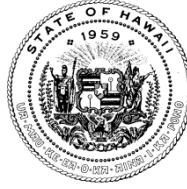


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



**LATE**

TESTIMONY BY:  
JADE T. BUTAY  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDUARDO P. MANGLALLAN  
PATRICK H. MCCAIN  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

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

April 12, 2022  
3:00 P.M.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224/Teleconference

**G.M. 847**  
**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Highway Safety Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, EDWARD WERNER, for a term to expire 6-30-26.**

Senate Committee on Transportation

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) is in **strong support** of the nomination of Edward Werner 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. Werner, and his wife Paula, became strong community advocates for roadway safety after their son Kaulana was killed by a drunk driver in Nanakuli. They have dedicated many hours building community awareness of the dangers of impaired driving, distracted driving, and speeding. Their determination led to creation of Kaulana's Law in 2017, which enhanced criminal penalties for individuals convicted of drunk driving and negligent homicide.

Mr. Werner's efforts include multiple community highway safety events on Oahu's Leeward Coast which include partnerships such as the DOT, Hawaii Department of Education, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Hawaii Bicycling League, DTRIC Insurance, Honolulu Police Department, Honolulu Emergency Medical Services,

Kamehameha Schools, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Hawaii Building & Construction Trades Council, the Nanakuli Neighborhood Board, and the Leeward coast community.

Mr. Werner's community-focused advocacy, passionate approach to highway safety, and "improve safety for all now" mentality will be tremendous adds to the SHSC.

The DOT respectfully requests that this Committee confirm Edward Warner to the SHSC, whose members serve without compensation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

April 7, 2022

Chris Lee, Chair  
Committee on Transportation  
Senate  
State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Honorable Chair Lee and Members of the Committee on Transportation:

Re: Support for Edward Werner. – GM846 & GM847 State Highway Safety Council

I would like to state that we are in strong support of Mr. Edward Werner to serve on the State Highway Safety Council.

Mr. Werner has been an embodiment of highway safety for the west side of Oahu. After the unfortunate incident where he lost his son Kaulana to a drunk driver, Mr. Werner has been at the forefront in sign-waving during the holidays to tell people not to drink and drive. Additionally, he assisted in putting highway speed bumps in the Nanakuli area. He knows these are just several examples to reduce possible fatalities, however; Mr. Werner's dedication is an example we should learn from. His caring attitude and positive outlook will assist this council.

Edward has always been part of the community. His dedication to Hawaii can be seen through his leadership in various organizations. He truly believes that we must assist and better Hawaii for our future and support the working men and women of Hawaii. He knows that if we do our part we all can save lives

I strongly support Edward Werner to be on the State Highway Safety Council. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

T. George Paris  
Managing Director

**LATE**

**GM-847**

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 9:42:31 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shaena Hoohuli	Testifying for Build Team 50	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

UA MAU KE EA OKA AUNA IKA PONO ..... IN GOD WE TRUST , GOD BLESS US we the Hawaii Residents, Our #1 priority is PUBLIC SAFETY! HOOPONOPONO 🌈



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

April 12, 2022

The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair  
Committee on Transportation  
Hawaii State Senate

Dear Chair Lee:

Subject: GM 846 & GM 847 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Highway Safety Council, Gubernatorial Nominee EDWARD WERNER terms to expire 6-30-2022 and 6-30-2026 (respectively)

I am honored to write this letter of very strong support for the confirmation of Mr. Edward Werner's appointment to the State Highway Safety Council.

Mr. Werner, known to many as Uncle Eddie, is a lifelong resident of Nanakuli, a servant leader, and a recognized voice in our community who tirelessly advocates for safety on our roads. Both Uncle Eddie and his wife Paula are passionate about preventing traffic fatalities as they know firsthand the grief and heartbreak from losing their son in 2016, and other loved ones since then, to driving under the influence and distracted driving. I have joined the Werner 'Ohana in a number of the sign waving events they've coordinated to remind drivers along Farrington Highway to slow down and drive safely. In addition to sign waving and community awareness campaigns, Uncle Eddie has advocated for legislation to extend prison terms for offenders convicted of first-degree negligent homicide, when the offender fails to render aid to the injured at the scene of an accident.

Since the start of 2022, 35 people have lost their lives on our roads including two members of the Werner family. These deaths are senseless and entirely preventable. The State Highway Safety Council has a serious and important kuleana, but I have great confidence that Uncle Eddie's appointment to this council will bring an informed voice of the community that positively impacts how safety improvements are developed. Please advise and consent to this appointment.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide this testimony.

Sincerely,

Stacelynn K. M. Eli  
Representative

**Erik K. Abe**  
**55 South Kukui Street, #1606**  
**Honolulu, Hawaii. 96813**  
**Ph. (808) 537-3081. Cell: (808) 537-3081**

**TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2021; 3:00 P.M.**  
**STATE CAPITOL, CONFERENCE ROOM 224**  
**BY VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**RE: GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 0847, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE STATE HIGHWAY SAFETY COUNCIL, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, EDWARD WERNER, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2026.**

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Erik Abe, and I am the Public Affairs and Policy Director for the Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA). I am testifying today solely in my capacity as a concerned citizen, and my views expressed do not necessarily nor officially reflect those of the HPCA.

I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of the nomination of EDWARD WERNER for the State Highway Safety Council, for a term to expire 06-30-3036.

In October 2017, I was requested by my friend, Mr. Ron Shimabuku, to assist his family draft legislation before the Hawaii State Legislature to strengthen Hawaii's laws applicable to driving under the influence of an intoxicant. At the time, Mr. Shimabuku informed me that his hanai brother, Kaulana Werner, was killed by an intoxicated driver in Nanakuli, Island of Oahu, and that his family wanted to change the laws to prevent similar situations from occurring in the future to ease the suffering of the families of victims.

In the process of drafting legislation, I met Ed Werner, his wife Paula, his children, grandchildren, nephews, nieces, and extended family for the purpose of understanding his family's intention behind the legislation. I found Mr. Werner to be the patriarch of his family and that it was his and his family's intention to protect his community and the entire State.

I was deeply touched by Mr. Werner's and his family's sincere and selfless efforts to turn the tragedy of losing a son into something positive for the benefit of all. Among the countless things Mr. Werner and his family have done included:

**Testimony on Governor's Message No. 0847**

**Tuesday, April 12, 2022; 3:00 p.m.**

**Page 2**

- Organizing sign waving events along Farrington Highway, Nanakuli, Island of Oahu, and other roadways throughout West Oahu that were participated by hundreds of individuals;
- Organizing and participating in various marches and community events sponsored by the City and County of Honolulu and the State of Hawaii to promote the public's awareness of the dangers of drunk driving;
- Meeting with State lawmakers and various organizations to share his experience regarding the passing of his son, Kaulana -- a very personal and deeply traumatic experience that exemplified the extreme toll that drunk driving has had on our citizenry; and
- Attending the trials of other persons charged with drunk driving to offer their personal experiences and support for the families of victims of these crimes.

Based on my observations, in my opinion, Mr. Werner and his family are greatly respected by the residents of Nanakuli as good citizens and leaders who have demonstrated through their actions their willingness to help others and to "do the right thing" for all. He is greatly appreciated as a victim advocate for his empathy, sincerity, and enormous inner strength. I am truly blessed to have him and his family as my role models and friends.

**For these reasons, I respectfully urge your favorable consideration of Mr. Edward Werner for the State Highway Safety Council.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**LATE**

**GM-847**

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 9:14:42 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chad K Taniguchi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The State Highway Safety Council will become stronger and more effective with Eddie Werner as a member.

I have worked with Eddie Werner since 2016, when there were six pedestrians killed in a six-month period in Nanakuli and Waianae. The Hawaii Bicycling League worked with DOT, local businesses, and local families to install pedestrian crossing flags as an additional safety measure while waiting for more permanent engineering safety countermeasures to be installed.

Memorial walks and bike rides were held to honor the memory of those people who suffered from traffic violence and to remind people of valuable lives needlessly lost. Solutions meetings were held to push for ways to prevent similar tragedies from happening again.

Eddie Werner will be a valuable member of the State Highway Safety Council, bringing his family's commitment to safe streets. As a grass-roots community member he tirelessly speaks to other community members and organizes community, police, agency, and legislative support for safety.



**LATE**

**GM-847**

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 7:11:24 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Johnny	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this bill and highly recommend my Papa Edward Werner

**LATE**

**GM-847**

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 7:06:25 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mary werner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I highly recommend Mr Edward Werner

**LATE**

**GM-847**

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 7:45:44 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cory Chun	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chiar Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Committee members,

I want to express my strong support for the nomination of Mr. Ed Werner for the State Highway Safety Council. Ed has a strong track record of community service and advocacy and has championed safety on our roads to prevent further injuries and loss of life from traffic accidents. I know that Ed will share his mana'o on the council and work to make our roads safer for the entire state. Thank you for the opportunity to support Mr. Ed Werner for this appointment. Mahalo.

**LATE**

**GM-847**

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 8:00:32 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Blane Kaneshiro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern, I Blane "Champ" Kaneshiro support Ed Werner for this position. Ed is an outstanding well respected citizen of Nanakuli. He is trust worthy and gives 100% in all he does. His experiences and knowing the Westside culture is an asset to us all. This man and his family have been thru so much pain, hardship, and tragedy. And yet he chooses to serve others. This man has done more Nanakuli and us, then we can ever do for him. I humbly ask you to please approve this kind God fearing man to this position. It's time for honest individuals to make good choices for us all. Mahalo for you time and thank you in advance for your endorsement of Mr. Ed Werner.

**LATE**

**GM-847**

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 8:44:06 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Darius Kila	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please accept my testimony in full support of this nomination. Mr. Werner has been a pillar to our community in Nānākuli and will be a great asset if given the chance to serve. Again, I whole heartedly support this nomination.

**LATE**

**GM-847**

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 9:25:03 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Regina Peterson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I would like to share my full support for nominee Edward Warner to be confirmed into the State Highway Safety Council.

**LATE**

**GM-847**

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 9:29:25 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Heather Graeber	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Ed Werner

**LATE**

**GM-847**

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 9:48:14 AM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kehau Kaalouahi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Edward Werner has been working hard to keep our highways safe ever since his child was tragically taken from him during a hit and run. He knows our community and knows what needs to be done to keep eveyone safe. He is here to help EVERYONE!!!



**LATE**

**GM-847**

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 11:01:12 AM  
Testimony for TRS on 4/12/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lena Suzuki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Ed Warner for consideration and confirmation to the State Highway Safety Council.

**LATE**

**GM-847**

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 1:00:21 PM

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lynette Cruz	Testifying for Malama Makua	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Malama Makua fully supports Mr. Edward Warner in his application for membership on the State Highway Safety Council. We trust that Mr. Warner will bring to the table his many years of experience as a westside resident. We hope that you will consider him favorably. Mahalo nui.