

TESTIMONY BY:

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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. 852

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Highway Safety Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, WILLIAM HANKINS, for a term to expire 6-30-2022.

Senate Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) is in **strong support** of the nomination of William Hankins 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. Hankins recently retired from the Maui Police Department (MPD) after over 30 years of service. Most of his experience has been in the Traffic Division at MPD, of which he was the commander for the last three years. He led efforts to curb impaired driving and worked closely with the community to address, deter, and change legislation with regard to impaired driving. Mr. Hankins even made national news with his clever slogans to get drivers to follow speed limits on Maui highways.

Additionally, due to his years of service at MPD, he was qualified in 2nd district court as an expert in the field of impaired driving and as a certified Drug Recognition expert. Most recently, he supported and worked with families to organize impaired driving sign waving events to bring much needed awareness to this issue. Mr. Hankins also created the annual Hanna Brown Memorial impaired driving checkpoint.

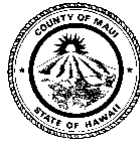
Mr. Hankins experience in law enforcement, understanding of driver tendencies that lead to dangerous situations, ability to recognize potentially hazardous situations that and quick mitigations, and his default toward action in saving lives on the system make him a valuable add to the SHSC.

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

LATE



Director of Council Services
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

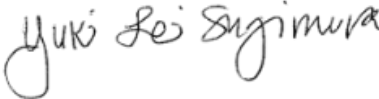
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April 11, 2022

TO: Honorable Chris Lee, Chair
Senate Committee on Transportation

FROM: Yuki Lei Sugimura
Councilmember 

DATE: April 11, 2022

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT FOR GM852, NOMINATING WILLIAM HANKINS TO THE STATE HIGHWAY SAFETY COUNCIL**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of Governor Ige's nomination of William Hankins to serve on the State Highway Safety Council.

I SUPPORT this nomination to the board because of Mr. Hankin's long standing professional qualifications, his integrity, and his dedication to public safety. Mr. Hankins years of service as police traffic commander in the Maui Police Department make him tremendously qualified to serve on the SHSC. Retired Lieutenant Hankin's efforts to increase community awareness about the dangers of drunken driving have no doubt saved lives in our community.

During my time on the County Council, I have witnessed firsthand Lt. Hankins tireless efforts to make Maui County's roadways safer for everyone. He was the driving force behind the County enacting a law that allows for vehicles to be towed when drivers are arrested for DUI. He also led efforts to utilize electronic warrants to quicken the testing of suspected impaired drivers and the establishment of a deputy prosecutor position dedicated to traffic crimes.

Lt. Hankins work with the families of victims of drunken driving shows his compassion and selflessness. His work with these families to further increase community awareness has made a tremendous impact and also helped these families heal. Lt. Hankins handled this aspect of the job with incredible grace.

Retired Lt. Hankins will be a quality addition to the State Highway Safety Council. He is a man of integrity that has always been willing to serve the people of Hawaii.

For the foregoing reasons, I SUPPORT this nomination.

GM-852

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 10:36:31 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support and urge the Senate to support and confirm William Hankins (Retired Lieutenant, MPD) to the State Highway Safety Council. I've known and worked alongside Mr. Hankins for almost three decades. He is a natural leader and gifted communicator. Just before he retired, he was arguably one of the best Traffic Division Commander for the Maui Police Department. His effective interaction with families of victims that died in speed related and OUI (alcohol and drug) related traffic fatalities was genuine. He rallied their support and the support of our esteemed political leaders to make positive changes for our residents and visitors. I have no doubt, that his input will be refreshing, and his law enforcement experience vital for the success of the State Highway Safety Council. All of Hawaii will benefit from his seat at the table.

LATE

GM-852

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 4:16:12 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen Kahikina	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a retired Lieutenant and Traffic Commander with the Maui Police Department, and with his passion for traffic safety, William Hankins would be an invaluable asset to the State Highway Safety Council (SHSC). I've worked with Mr. Hankins in my capacity as a highway safety specialist and have witnessed his willingness to go above and beyond to serve his communities and keep all roadway users safe. This included building and fostering partnerships and relationships; striving to achieve progress in existing and new programs; and rallying everyone to raise awareness of the dangers of reckless and preventable driving behaviors. His common sense approach to problems and solutions is very much needed, and his law enforcement experience will add another dimension to the SHSC discussions. For these reasons, I urge this committee to confirm Mr. Hankins to the SHSC.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

LATE

GM-852

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 10:52:40 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ed Werner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Ed Werner highly recommend Mr. William Hankins For the State of Hawaii Safety Council. He has been a remarkable voice for MPD. His duties to protect and serve the State of Hawaii has gone unnoticed. Although he Retired he chooses to continue to serve and protect the citizens of Hawaii. I humbly ask you to please consider Mr. William Hankins