

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony COMMENTING on S.B. 2834, S.D. 1
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION**

SENATOR DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Hearing Date: February 24, 2022

Room Number: Videoconference

1 **Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Health (DOH) defers to the Department of
2 Transportation (DOT) for fiscal implications of implementation.

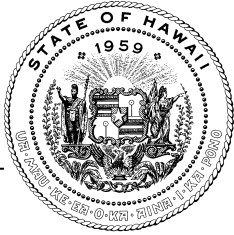
3 **Department Testimony:** The DOH offers comments on Senate Bill 2834, Senate Draft 1
4 (S.B. 2834, S.D. 1) which amends the duties and membership of the State Highway Safety
5 Council (SHSC) and renames it the Transportation Safety and Modernization Council to help
6 ensure that the DOT achieves their stated goals and outcomes, and improve reporting to provide
7 better transparency for elected leaders and the public.

8 S.B. 2834, S.D. 1 is aligned with several of the DOH Healthy Hawaii Strategic Plan 2030
9 physical activity objectives, to increase the miles of low stress bicycle and pedestrian
10 infrastructure across the state, and for the state and each county to identify and adopt mode-share
11 goals and measurements that prioritize walking, wheelchairs, and bicycling.

12 The DOH routinely participates in the SHSC to ensure that health metrics and health
13 equity are included in transportation performance measures and will continue to do so if the
14 proposed changes are adopted. The DOH looks forward to continued collaboration with the
15 DOT.

16 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

17 **Offered Amendments:** None



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SCOTT J. GLENN
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

235 South Beretania Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone:
Web:

(808) 587-3807
energy.hawaii.gov

Testimony of
SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Thursday, February 24, 2022
10:00 A.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 211 and Videoconference

**COMMENTS
SB 2834 SD1
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) offers comments on SB 2834 SD1, which establishes the Transportation Safety and Modernization Council to help the Department of Transportation achieve state goals and outcomes while improving reporting to provide better information and transparency for elected leaders and the public.

HSEO requests one minor amendment under the members of the Transportation Safety and Modernization Council to change the "executive director of the State energy office" to the "Chief Energy Officer of the Hawaii State Energy Office" to align with existing statute.

HSEO's testimony is guided by its mission to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation to help achieve a resilient, clean energy, decarbonized economy. Emissions from transportation account for the largest share of energy sector emissions in the state. As noted in the 2016 Greenhouse Gas Inventory, transportation emissions in Hawaii were at 8.69 million metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents, accounting for 51 percent of total energy sector emissions. For Hawaii to meet its statutory target "to sequester more greenhouse gases than emitted as soon as practicable but no later than 2045", planning and implementation of clean transportation

alternatives are essential. To address transportation emissions, the HSEO engages with stakeholders to implement policies and programs to support the decarbonization transportation.

HSEO collaborated with the Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) – Highways on successful applications for the designation of alternative fuel corridors on the islands of Hawaii, Kauai, Lanai, Maui, Molokai, and Oahu opening the door to federal funding opportunities. To support the implementation of VMT reduction and active transportation strategies, the HSEO collaborated with the State Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission on a grant from the U.S. Climate Alliance to fund a Vehicle Miles Travelled and Active Transportation Specialist. The position supports HSEO's collaboration with the Hawaii Department of Transportation and other state and county agencies on development and implementation of strategies to achieve energy efficiency in transportation, primarily via reducing vehicle miles travelled (VMT) through mode-shift, active transportation, and other associated means.

A coordinated effort is needed amongst a wide range of stakeholders to make meaningful progress in transitioning the transportation sector to clean energy. The HSEO will continue to work with relevant agencies and stakeholders to support the goals of Chapter 225P, Hawaii Revised Statute, and take holistic actions to achieve the decarbonization of the transportation sector.

HSEO defers to the appropriate agency on fiscal and administrative impacts.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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

February 24, 2022
10:00 A.M.
State Capitol, Teleconference

**S.B. 2834, S.D. 1
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION**

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

The Department of Transportation (DOT) provides **comments** on this measure that proposes to amend the duties and membership of the State Highway Safety Council and rename it to the Transportation Safety and Modernization Council.

The DOT thanks the Senate Committee on Transportation for the amendments that remove the added bureaucracy on decision making and implementation, utilize an existing process for public outreach, add key stakeholders to ensure a balanced conversation on system needs, and recognize the DOT's commitment to transparency and accountability as shown by its public outreach processes and robust reporting.

Upon review of the Senate Draft 1, the DOT considers the existing provisions in Section 286-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, already authorize the Governor the flexibility necessary to adjust the composition of the council and DOT Highways will be begin doing so immediately. As such, this measure is unnecessary.

The DOT Highways Division already reports progress on established metrics and goal achievement, evaluates its projects, and engages with stakeholders representing all users of its highway facilities. Goals are set based on federal mandates, state requirements, and policies set by Governor and the Legislature.

Finally, the preamble highlights concerns about safety, specifically pedestrian safety, congestion, and transportation costs. Contrary to what is suggested by this language, the DOT has dedicated safety, bicycle and pedestrian, and congestion relief programs, and DOT provides transportation infrastructure to serve the surrounding land uses and provide mode options for users to choose from. The DOT recommends removing the Section 1 of the bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS
Thursday, February 24, 2022 — 10:00 a.m.

Ulupono Initiative supports SB 2834 SD 1, Relating to Transportation.

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

My name is Micah Munekata, and I am the Director of Government Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food; renewable energy and clean transportation; and better management of freshwater and waste.

Ulupono supports SB 2834 SD 1, which establishes the Transportation Safety and Modernization Council to help the Department of Transportation (DOT) achieve state goals and outcomes while improving reporting to provide better information and transparency for elected leaders and the public.

The transportation industry is facing many challenges. Transportation agencies have been faced with new calls to prioritize safety through vision zero commitments at the federal and state level, coupled with demands for accountability through performance metric reporting. Longer term funding considerations still remain including the long-term solvency of the federal highway trust fund. Added to this are climate concerns, cost-of-living pressures, public health crises, and mobility justice.

Hawai'i DOT is facing all of these issues and more. The Transportation Safety and Modernization Council can help provide a forum for such ongoing deliberation at a state level, taking into account the total impact and direction of our transportation program and ensuring that transportation investments are serving our community's goals effectively.

This Council is not to replace other decision-making bodies about our transportation investment program, but be a resource to help guide state level conversations on what is happening in transportation and ensure that collectively is serving our community needs.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata
Director of Government Affairs

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

SB-2834-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 9:59:53 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/24/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Lori McCarney	Testifying for Hawaii Bicycling League	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee,

Hawaii Bicycling League supports SB 2834 SD1 to establish a Transportation Safety and Modernization Council.

The Hawaii Department of Transportation has a dedicated but small staff who focus on infrastructure for pedestrians and bicyclists. However, you have to wonder how effective they can be when the vast majority of HDOT staff focus on traditional transportation solutions--ie motor vehicles and their infrastructure needs.

Creating this Council will help provide more focus on the transportation options we need, and transparency into the decisions made.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of sB 2834 SD1.

Sincerely,

Lori McCarney

Executive Director

HIPHI Board

Kilikina Mahi, MBA
Chair
KM Consulting LLC

JoAnn Tsark, MPH
Secretary
John A. Burns School of Medicine,
Native Hawaiian Research Office

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Camonia Graham - Tutt, PhD
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Carissa Holley, MED
Hale Makua Health Services

May Okihiro, MD, MS
John A. Burns School of Medicine,
Department of Pediatrics

Misty Pacheco, DrPH
University of Hawai'i at Hilo

Michael Robinson, MBA, MA
Hawai'i Pacific Health

Kathleen Roche, MS, RN, CENP
Kaiser Permanente

Dina Shek, JD
Medical-Legal Partnership
For Children in Hawai'i

Garret Sugai
Pharmacare Hawai'i

Titiiamae Ta'ase, JD
State of Hawai'i, Deputy Public Defender

HIPHI Initiatives

Coalition for a
Tobacco-Free Hawai'i

Community Health
Worker Initiative

COVID-19 Response

Hawai'i Drug & Alcohol Free
Coalitions

Hawai'i Farm to School Hui

Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition

Hawai'i Public Health Training Hui

Healthy Eating + Active Living

Kūpuna Food Security Coalition

Date: February 23, 2022

To: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

Re: Support for SB 2834, SD1, Relating to Transportation

Hrg: February 24, 2022 at 10:00 AM via videoconference

The Obesity Prevention Task Force, a program of Hawai'i Public Health Instituteⁱ (HIPHI), is in **support of SB 2834, SD1**, which establishes the Transportation Safety and Modernization Council to assist the Department of Transportation in achieving state goals and outcomes, and improve transparency and reporting.

Hawai'i must move away from an auto-centric society and invest in infrastructure that prioritizes public transportation, biking, and walking. Not only will this improve health by making active transportation more accessible, but it will also make our roads safer for all users, lower the cost of transportation and reduce greenhouse gas emissionsⁱⁱ. It also aligns with the recent legislation to modernize Hawaii's ground transportation infrastructure,ⁱⁱⁱ and SB 2834 SD1 offers increased support to the Department of Transportation in its implementation of the new law.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Mahalo,



Amanda Fernandes, JD
Policy and Advocacy Director

ⁱ Created by the legislature in 2012, the Obesity Prevention Task Force is comprised of over 60 statewide organizations, and works to make recommendations to reshape Hawai'i's school, work, community, and health care environments, making healthier lifestyles obtainable for all Hawai'i residents. The Hawai'i Public Health Institute (HIPHI) convenes the Task Force and supports and promotes policy efforts to create a healthy Hawai'i.

Hawai'i Public Health Institute is a hub for building healthy communities, providing issue-based advocacy, education, and technical assistance through partnerships with government, academia, foundations, business, and community-based organizations.

ⁱⁱ Atherton, E. & Osborne, B. (2016). Driving Public Health with Transportation. [Powerpoint Slides]

ⁱⁱⁱ Act 131, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2021

LATE

SB-2834-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 2:00:40 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/24/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Chad K Taniguchi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill to transform the State Highway Safety Council into the Transportation Safety and Modernization Council. I have been a member of the State Highway Safety Council for 9 of the last 10 years. During that time the State Highway Safety Council has played a positive role in supporting and pushing the DOT to do more to improve safety.

The DOT under Ed Sniffen's leadership has done wonderful work to improve safety for all road users. Bike lanes and shoulders have increased. Leeward Bikeway is being built. Raised crosswalks slow drivers down and protect people walking. Red light safety cameras are being implemented. Roads are being redesigned with safety as a priority. Even more can be done.

Three years ago when Complete Streets and Vision Zero were adopted to guide the work of the DOT, the idea arose to give the State Highway Safety Council the function of pulling various agencies and stakeholders together to push for and support Vision Zero and Complete Streets goals as a cohesive unit. This bill provides direction for that to happen.

This model of coordinated, multi-agency cooperation striving toward safe and clean transportation goals is a best practice I have seen work in Washington and Oregon. Including motorist organizations such as the Hawaii Transportation Association is a good idea. We are all road users and the more we talk and recognize each other's needs to use the same spaces, the safer streets will become.