

#### **TESTIMONY BY:**

EDWIN H. SNIFFEN DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
DREANALEE K. KALILI
TAMMY L. LEE
ROBIN K. SHISHIDO
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA

### STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

869 PUNCHBOWL STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 24, 2023 2:00 P.M. State Capitol Conference Rm 415 & Teleconference

# S.B. 1086 S.D. 2 H.D.1 Relating to Transportation

House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

The Department of Transportation **supports** S.B. 1086, S.D.2, H.D.1. This measure amends the composition and duties of the state highway safety council.

Since the passage of Act 100 the Department has taken a proactive approach to move in a timely and transparent manner as it relates to analyzing, planning, evaluating, and executing transportation projects.

The Department appreciates the willingness of the Legislature to consider a council that has been comprised of community and professionals from across the state to provide input into the transportation system that is being upgraded to serve everyone.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



DATE: March 23, 2023

TO: Representative David Tarnas

Chair, House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Tiffany Yajima / Jena Matila

S.B. 1086, S.D. 2, H.D. 1 – Relating to Transportation

Hearing Date: Friday, March 24, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

**Conference Room: 325** 

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs:

On behalf of the Alliance for Automotive Innovation ("Auto Innovators") we submit this testimony in **support** of S.B. 1086, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, which amends the composition and duties of the State Highway Safety Council.

The Alliance for Automotive Innovation is the singular, authoritative and respected voice of the automotive industry. Focused on creating a safe and transformative path for sustainable industry growth, the Alliance for Automotive Innovation represents the manufacturers producing nearly 99 percent of cars and light trucks sold in the U.S. Members include motor vehicle manufacturers, original equipment suppliers, technology, and other automotive-related companies and trade associations.

This measure diversifies the current composition of the State Highway Safety Council to be comprised of community members and professionals from across the state who are intended to provide input on the state's transportation system and the state's transportation policy goals.

Auto Innovators support the amendments made in the H.D. 1 version of this bill to include a member from an organization representing the automobile manufacturing industry. As the representative of manufacturers that produce vehicles, Auto Innovators looks forward to the opportunity to work with the state to develop reasonable plans and recommendations to improve our state transportation system.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of this measure.



DATE: March 24, 2023

TO: Representative David Tarnas

Chair, House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Tiffany Yajima / Jena Matila

S.B. 1086, SD 2, HD 1 – Relating to Transportation

Hearing Date: Friday, March 24, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

**Conference Room: 325** 

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs:

On behalf of the Alliance for Automotive Innovation ("Auto Innovators") we submit this testimony in **support** of S.B. 1086, SD 2, HD 1, which amends the composition and duties of the State Highway Safety Council.

The Alliance for Automotive Innovation is the singular, authoritative and respected voice of the automotive industry. Focused on creating a safe and transformative path for sustainable industry growth, the Alliance for Automotive Innovation represents the manufacturers producing nearly 99 percent of cars and light trucks sold in the U.S. Members include motor vehicle manufacturers, original equipment suppliers, technology, and other automotive-related companies and trade associations.

This measure diversifies the current composition of the State Highway Safety Council to be comprised of community members and professionals from across the state who are intended to provide input on the state's transportation system and the state's transportation policy goals.

Auto Innovators support the amendments made in the HD 1 version of this bill to include a member from an organization representing the automobile manufacturing industry. As the representative of manufacturers that produce vehicles, Auto Innovators looks forward to the opportunity to work with the state to develop reasonable plans and recommendations to improve our state transportation system.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of this measure.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS Friday, March 24, 2023 — 2:00 p.m.

#### Ulupono Initiative <u>supports</u> SB 1086 SD2 HD1, Relating to Transportation.

Dear Chair Tarnas and Members of the Committee:

My name is Micah Munekata, and I am the Director of Government Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawaiʻi-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 choices, and better management of freshwater resources.

**Ulupono supports SB 1086 SD2 HD1**, which amends the composition and duties of the State Highway Safety Council.

Nationwide, traffic fatalities are the highest they have been in 16 years and are generally expected to continue to increase, mostly due to auto-centric road design, reduced peak congestion, and increasing larger and heavier vehicles. Hawai'i is also experiencing this same troubling trend. In 2014, there were 95 deaths in Hawai'i, while in 2022 there were 117 deaths. Last year alone, Hawai'i County's fatalities tripled in just one year. In addition, people walking and biking are demonstrably more at risk—Hawai'i ranks 13th among the most dangerous states for pedestrians, a ranking that has worsened over the past 20 years.

As Hawai'i's transportation needs are increasingly complex and challenging, we appreciate this committee's efforts to look at bolstering safety policies for all ground transportation users.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata Director of Government Affairs

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.vox.com/22675358/us-car-deaths-year-traffic-covid-pandemic

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Hawaii Department of Health

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://hidot.hawaii.gov/highways/safe-communites/

<sup>4</sup> https://smartgrowthamerica.org/dangerous-by-design/