

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 04/13/2023

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: 312 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Committee: House Transportation

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: SCR 0031 URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONSTRUCT AN ALL-WAY CROSSWALK ALONG THE CROSS-STREETS OF KAHUALII STREET, WAIPIO POINT ACCESS ROAD, AND FARRINGTON HIGHWAY.

Department's Position:

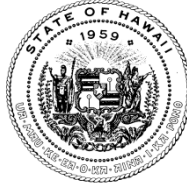
The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) is in support of SCR 31, but defers to the Department of Transportation on the implementation of this measure.

The crosswalk and pedestrian walkways adjacent and leading up to Waipahu High School are heavily congested not only by students and staff of Waipahu High School, but by the community as a whole. The cross streets of Kahualii Street, Waipio Access Road, Farrington Highway, and the pedestrian island fronting the school are heavily used. They are often overflowing during peak commute times before and after school.

With the most recent pedestrian tragedy near McKinley High School, the Department strongly supports effective measures to increase pedestrian safety and prevent any pedestrian-related accidents or fatalities throughout our communities and especially near public schools.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of SCR 31.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



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

April 13, 2023
10:00 A.M.
State Capitol, Room 312 & Videoconference

S.C.R. 31
URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONSTRUCT AN
ALL-WAY CROSSWALK ALONG THE CROSS-STREETS OF KAHUALII STREET,
WAIPIO POINT ACCESS ROAD, AND FARRINGTON HIGHWAY

House Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports the intent** of S.C.R. 31 to construct an all-way crosswalk at the intersection of Farrington Highway and Kahualii Street/Waipio Point Access Road, as well as explore other possible means of protecting students and pedestrians using Farrington Highway in the vicinity of Waipahu High School.

Although an all-way crosswalk will increase student safety for the intersection during peak student crossings before and after school, vehicular traffic may experience delays. The DOT will look for the best option to optimize pedestrian safety and intersection operations for all roadway users throughout the day.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
Thursday, April 13, 2023 — 10:00 a.m.

Ulupono Initiative supports SCR 31, Urging the Department of Transportation to Construct an All-Way Crosswalk Along the Cross-Streets of Kahuali'i Street, Waipi'o Point Access Road, and Farrington Highway.

Dear Chair Todd 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 choices, and better management of freshwater resources.

Ulupono supports SCR 31 and offers comments. This resolution urges the Department of Transportation to construct an all-way crosswalk along the cross-streets of Kahuali'i Street, Waipi'o Point Access Road, and Farrington Highway. All-way crosswalks, as implemented on Ala Moana Blvd, are intersections in which people walking are given their own signal timing phase to cross, thus helping to prioritize people walking over previous road designs. The 2022 evaluation of the all-way crosswalks on Ala Moana Blvd helped reduce the likelihood of people driving and hitting people walking while not demonstrably affecting travel times.¹

If possible, we recommend looking at a pedestrian scramble in which folks are also allowed to cross diagonally. Research from other communities demonstrates that pedestrian scrambles (or Barnes Dances) reduce collisions in areas with high numbers of people on walking.²

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata
Director of Government Affairs

¹ <https://hidot.hawaii.gov/blog/2022/11/23/evaluation-of-ala-moana-boulevard-intersections-with-hobron-lane-and-ena-kalia-road-complete/>

² <https://www.strongtowns.org/journal/2018/11/27/a-pedestrian-scramble-can-make-an-intersection-safer> and <https://www.cmap.illinois.gov/documents/10180/371771/complete+street+select+treatments+17+-+exclusive+all-ways+ped+corssing.pdf/51d16420-b096-4849-8f92-04207013e68a#:~:text=Can%20significantly%20reduce%20pedestrian%20crashes,if%20intersection%20is%20already%20signalized>

SCR-31

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 3:46:23 PM

Testimony for TRN on 4/13/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James Labrie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong support of SCR 31.

SCR-31

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 3:24:29 PM

Testimony for TRN on 4/13/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cayla Jurison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Cayla Jurison, I am a senior at Waipahu High School and my testimony is in support of bills HCR31 and HR32. As a student who drives to and from school each day, I am well aware of the unsafe pedestrian conditions in front of the school. When driving in the mornings and afternoons, I tend to be scared of hitting pedestrians. Even when driving cautiously and keeping alert at all times, the fear comes from the students often seen standing in the road because of overcrowding of the pedestrian islands. Furthermore, even though the walk symbol is not displayed, students continue to cross the street, blocking the road so cars can't pass, creating a grid lock. On the pedestrian side, when standing at the edge of the islands, I was scared of being pushed into the road by eager students waiting to cross the street. I think that bills HCR31 and HR32 will help alleviate all of these problems as well as reducing the amount of time it takes to cross the street. When having to cross the road, it once took me 15 minutes to get to the side I wanted to be on. This is because in order to get to the side where the bus stop is, from the school, you have to use all 3 crosswalks at the intersection. Due to my personal experiences I deeply urge the committee to take into consideration these bills for the betterment of both drivers and pedestrians at this intersection.

SCR-31

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 3:32:14 PM

Testimony for TRN on 4/13/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ahrianna Acosta	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Ahrianna Acosta, and I am here to testify in support of HCR31 and HR32. As a student of Waipahu High School, I believe that this bill is important to the people in this community to be safe.

This is needed because it will help with the safety of the civilians in the Waipahu community. The crosswalks in question will be by large crossing points, especially the one on Waipio Access Point which is outside of the high school. The crosswalk is always packed after school where kids are standing on the road. It isn't safe and there have been accidents in the past.

This will benefit the people by helping make the crosswalks safer. The sidewalks we have right now have caused overcrowding on the triangles which stop cars from moving. These cars get upset, and some drivers don't care and will make kids move. This isn't safe and having these crosswalks made will make it much safer for people in the community, especially students like myself.

I have been at the crosswalk on Waipio Access Point after school. It gets so crowded and people tend to push just to be able to stand on the little triangle, so that we were considered "safe" because they weren't on the road, yet there are other people on the road. It is so scary and so dangerous to be on the road or even close to it. There are reckless drivers in Waipahu, and it is one of the scariest things.

In conclusion, I urge the committee to support HCR31 and HR 32 for the benefit of the Waipahu Community and Waipahu High School. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ahrianna Acosta

SCR-31

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 3:35:22 PM

Testimony for TRN on 4/13/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rani Richardson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Rani Richardson and I am a current senior at Waipahu High School. My testimony today is to express my strong support for Bills HCR31 and HR32. I have experienced the intersection at Kahualii Street, Farrington Highway, and Waipio Point Access Rd. both as a pedestrian and a driver.

As a pedestrian I have experienced: Being pushed into the road due to overflowing islands, almost being struck due to yield violations, and the excessive time it takes to get from one place to another.

On the other hand as a driver: I have had to wait through multiple light cycles to move due to pedestrian blockage, pedestrians spilling into roadways and surrounding vehicles, as well as unpredictable j-walking situations. On both occasions this intersection is difficult and dangerous to traverse.

If Bills HCR31 and HR32 are passed, multiple of these problems can be solved. All-walk crosswalks can make the roadways safer for pedestrians and improve the flow of traffic. Multiple studies conducted have found that the implementation of all-walk crosswalks can reduce pedestrian crashes to up to 40% and reduce delays for drivers to up to 50%

Overall, I strongly believe that an all-walk crosswalk at this intersection is a necessary and beneficial addition to Waipahu transportation infrastructure. I urge you to support the implementation of these crosswalks and prioritize the safety and convenience of our community. Thank you for your time and consideration.

SCR-31

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 3:39:42 PM

Testimony for TRN on 4/13/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tyren Viloría	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Tyren Viloría, and I am here to testify in support of HCR31 and HR32. As a student of Waipahu High School, I believe that this bill is important to keep us students safe when crossing the street.

The main reason this bill should be passed is because of how troubling it can be. With over a populated crosswalk, to traffic in front of our school. Ever since my brother has gone to this school till now, this problem hasn't changed and it should.

If this bill were to be passed, I believe this would help decline traffic, and overpopulated sidewalks. Furthermore, less road rage that drivers may cause.

With my previous encounters at the side walk, I too have witnessed this problem. Almost every morning when my mom drops me off, the sidewalk is always overfilled and swarmed with students crossing the street. And when they cross the street, kids block the direction cars are going which leaves the people driving and sometimes the kids mad.

In conclusion, I urge the committee to support HCR31 and HR 32 for the benefit of the Waipahu Community and Waipahu High School. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tyren Viloría