



**TESTIMONY BY:**  
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**STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU**  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 9, 2024  
2:00 p.m.  
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

**H.B. 1932, H.D. 1**  
**RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports H.B. 1932, H.D. 1**, which authorizes the DOT to directly acquire and hold title to real property for its purposes.

DOT supports this effort to reduce delays and expedite the acquisition process to provide a safe, efficient, accessible, and sustainable transportation system.

DOT further supports this effort to expedite project delivery and provide improvements to benefit the public.

DOT requests deferring the effective date until January 1, 2025, to develop and implement operations for the acquisition process.

DOT supports the H.D. 1 that incorporated the comments and suggestion from DLNR and deleted language that would have permitted the acquisition of existing public lands through condemnation that are already devoted to public use.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair  
Representative Gregg Takayama, Vice Chair  
Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Signature Aviation  
Sabrina V. Taylor  
Vice President, Airport Relations & Strategic Programs  
407-595-2001  
98 Kapalulu Place  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

Thursday, February 8, 2024

Support for H.B. 1932, Relating to DOT's Leasing of Public Lands

I am writing on behalf of Signature Aviation, a prominent commercial aeronautical tenant of the State of Hawaii's (State's) Department of Transportation (DOT) at six State-owned airports and at over 200 worldwide airports, to express our strong support for H.B. 1932. This crucial legislation seeks to streamline the process for reviewing and approving the leasing of land to which the DOT holds title at Hawaii airports.

Currently, the leasing process involves the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), which, while adept in its areas of responsibility, may not possess the specialized knowledge necessary for handling DOT airport leases. This bill proposes that the DOT, with its direct involvement and expertise in airport operations and land management, be the sole authority for reviewing and approving these public land leases. Such a change would not only align more closely with the operational realities of airport management but also ensure compliance with the State's obligations to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) related to Airport Improvement Program grants.

The benefits of this bill extend beyond administrative efficiency. By enabling quicker lease approvals, it opens the door for accelerated capital investment by airport tenants like ourselves. This, in turn, will spur the generation of direct revenues for the State through increased land rents and fees. Moreover, it will boost the State's economy by creating jobs and enhancing tourism, thereby contributing to Hawaii's overall economic vitality.

Signature Aviation, as a committed partner in Hawaii's aviation sector, understands the importance of efficient and effective airport management. The proposed changes in H.B. 1932 will facilitate a more responsive and agile airport lease management system, which is essential for the continued growth and development of Hawaii's airports and, by extension, its economy.

We urge the Hawaii State Legislature to pass this bill, recognizing its potential to significantly benefit the State's airports, its economy, and the myriad businesses and individuals who rely on them.

Thank you for considering our perspective on this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sabrina Taylor".



**SIGNATURE AVIATION CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS**  
13485 VETERANS WAY, SUITE 600  
ORLANDO, FL 32827

**HB-1932-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 9:47:49 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/9/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Regina Gregory      | Individual          | Oppose                    | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

oppose