

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



**TESTIMONY BY:**  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN  
DIRECTOR  
KA LUNA HO'OKELE  
  
Deputy Directors  
Nā Hope Luna Ho'okele  
DREANALEE K. KALILI  
TAMMY L. LEE  
ROBIN K. SHISHIDO

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

February 23, 2024  
11:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

**H.B. 1932, H.D. 2**  
**RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

House Committee on Finance

---

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports H.B. 1932, H.D. 2**, 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 in order 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, in order to develop and implement the acquisition process.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



Representative Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair  
Representative Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair  
Committee on Finance

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

Thursday, February 22, 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.

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 of 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". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a thin horizontal line.



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