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March 21, 2024 10:30 a.m. State Capitol, Room 312 via Videoconference

H.C. R. 154 & H.R. 133 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON IDENTIFYING AND FACILITATING THE REPAIR AND TRANSFER OF PRIVATE OR DISPUTED ROADS

House Committee on Transportation

The Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) **provides comments on H.C.R. 154 & H.R. 133**, which requests that the HDOT conduct a feasibility study on identifying and facilitating the repair and transfer of private or disputed roads.

The HDOT has established an inventory pursuant to Chapter 264, Hawaii Revised Statutes, consisting of federal-aid highways and other public highways, including county highways, which are used primarily for through traffic.

HDOT also maintains a priority list which scores and ranks the condition of the roads under the HDOT's jurisdiction. The ranking indicates whether the road should be scheduled for repair.

The transfer or surrender of disputed roads to the county is already provided under Hawaii Revised Statutes § 264-2.1, pursuant to administrative order.

The HDOT lacks the resources to identify and develop a list of all private and disputed roads which the HDOT has no jurisdiction over and is not authorized to manage and control. If the intent is to assume the financial burden and responsibility of private owners, additional funding will be necessary for the data collection, planning, design and upgrades.

Only eligible highways and state-owned properties qualify for federal funds, therefore, it is uncertain whether these funds may be used for the repair of private roads.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.