JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIAʻĀINA

EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HOʻOKELE

Deputy Directors
Nā Hope Luna Hoʻokele
DREANALEE K. KALILI
TAMMY L. LEE
ROBIN K. SHISHIDO

**STATE OF HAWAIʻI | KA MOKUʻĀINA ʻO HAWAIʻI
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA ʻOIHANA ALAKAU**
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 19, 2024
2:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 325 & Videoconference

**S.B. 3242, S.D. 1, H.D. 1
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION**

House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

The Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) **supports** S.B. 3242, S.D. 1, H.D. 1 which requires the HDOT or county transportation agency having jurisdiction to define and regularly perform evaluations to identify high risk or dangerous corridors and intersections, and plan strategies for mitigation, prioritizing changes that maximize safety and separate vehicles from vulnerable users such as pedestrians and bicyclists. S.B. 3242, S.D. 1, H.D. 1 also removes the requirement for an engineering study when reducing the maximum speed limit within one mile of a school.

The HDOT currently uses a comprehensive safety management process for all roadway users that includes both a traditional crash-based approach, as well as a complementary systemic safety approach. The HDOT is also developing a Safety Analytics Platform to enhance current analytics. These efforts allow HDOT decision makers and practitioners to make better informed decisions and implement safety countermeasures or investments faster.

In addition, safety is addressed in every HDOT project that is implemented, and we support creating and maintaining a transportation system that provides safe mobility for all modes and users. We have reported on our robust educational, enforcement and engineering programs which we implemented to successfully save lives over years. We meet regularly with the four counties and metropolitan planning organizations to discuss project implementation, safety focus, and opportunities for funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act funding and programs, including discretionary grant opportunities for safety such as Safe Streets and Roads for All.

S.B. 3242, S.D. 1, H.D. 1 will allow flexibility when lowering speeds within one mile of a school is necessary for safety.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Testimony of the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

03/19/24 2:00PM
CR 325 & Videoconference

SB 3242 SD1 HD1
Relating to Transportation

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and Committee Members,

The Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OahuMPO) **strongly supports SB 3242 SD1 HD1** which requires each department or county agency having jurisdiction over roads, highways, or similar infrastructure to evaluate high-risk or dangerous corridors or intersections and plan strategies for mitigation. SB 3242 SD1 HD1 also provides that an engineering study is not required to be considered when setting maximum speed limits within one mile of a school.

This bill would help support our goal of reducing traffic related deaths and serious injuries to zero by 2050. We also appreciate the focus on removing additional barriers to providing safety enhancements in areas within one mile of a school which focuses further on vulnerable road users and prioritizes the safety of our keiki.

The OahuMPO is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) on the island of Oahu responsible for carrying out a multimodal transportation planning process, including the development of a long-range (25-year horizon) metropolitan transportation plan, referred to as the Oahu Regional Transportation Plan (ORTP) that encourages and promotes a safe and efficient transportation system to serve the mobility needs of people and freight (including walkways, bicycles, and transit), fosters economic growth and development, and takes into consideration resiliency needs, while minimizing fuel consumption and air pollution (23 CFR 450.300).

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.