

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



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Deputy Directors  
Nā Hope Luna Ho'okele  
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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 20, 2025  
2:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 325

**H.B. 1259, H.D. 1  
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION**

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House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

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The Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) **supports** H.B. 1259, H.D. 1 which specifies that an engineering study is not required to be considered when reducing the maximum speed limit within one mile of a school and ten miles per hour of the current speed limit.

H.B. 1259, H.D. 1 will allow flexibility when lowering speed limits within one mile of a school and ten miles per hour is necessary for safety.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



## Testimony of the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

### Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

02/20/25 2:00PM

CR 325 & Videoconference

HB1259 HD1

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

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

The Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OahuMPO) **strongly supports HB1259 HD1** which specifies that an engineering study is not required to be considered when reducing the maximum speed limit within ten miles per hour of the current speed limit for that road.

This bill will help us achieve the goal of reducing traffic related deaths and serious injuries to zero by 2045. Traffic fatalities increased ten percent between 2023 and 2024 in Hawaii. In 2024, the State of Hawaii Department of Transportation conducted an annual [behavioral study](#), and nearly one-quarter of respondents admitted exceeding the speed limit by more than 20 miles per hour, and over half exceeded the speed limit by 10-20 miles per hour in the last six months. Lowering speed limits, with appropriate enforcement, is an effective safety countermeasure to lower crashes indicated by the [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration](#).

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), which encourages and promotes a safe, efficient, and resilient transportation system that serves the mobility needs of all people and freight (including walkways, bicycles, and transit), fosters economic growth and development, while minimizing fuel consumption and air pollution ([23 CFR 450.300](#)).

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

Law Office of Georgette A. Yaindl, LLC  
Georgette Anne Yaindl 8940  
P.O. Box 307  
Kailua-Kona Hawai'i 96745-0307  
(808) 224-0219 v/txt (877) 300-8869 fax  
gyaindl@gyattorney.com

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February 19, 2025

Rep. David A. Tarnas, Chair  
Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair  
Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs  
House of Representatives  
33rd Legislature, State of Hawai'i

via: <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov>

Dear Committee leadership and members,

**Re: SUPPORT FOR HB1259 HD1, RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION**

Hearing Date: Thursday, February 20, 2025  
Time: 2:00 p.m.  
Location: Conference Room 325  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

I write to express support for HB1259 HD1 and any and all legislation like it that serves to decrease the speed, size, and/or volume of motor vehicles operating on our roadways.

Thank you, Honorable committee leadership and members, for your attention to this issue and consideration of my letter. Mahalo.

Sincerely,

/s/ Georgette A. Yaindl  
GEORGETTE ANNE YAINDL

**HB-1259-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/19/2025 12:53:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/20/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruth Love	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Rates of speed here are already slow. If the road can accommodate 10mph higher an engineering study should not be necessary to lower a speed on an existing road or highway.

Thank you

Ruth Love