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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU
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March 11, 2025
3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 224

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

Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts

The Hawaii Department of Transportation **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 1 mile of a school and 10 miles per hour is necessary for safety.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



Testimony of the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts

03/11/25 3:00PM

CR 224 & Videoconference

HB1259 HD1

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

Dear Chair Lee Vice Chair Inouye, 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.

HB-1259-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 10:23:41 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
TIM REIMER	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Reducing Oahu Speed Limits Ten Miles Per Hour , is unsafe . It doesn't matter what area, you try do make the reduction of speed , you will be increasing, driver stress , thus drivers will not be concentrating on the road but only the slow travel time, making them late for school or multiple jobs. This will induce ROAD RAGE, including aggressive actions on the roads. This, is a bad suggestion, probably from someone who doesn't have a concise driving schedule , everyday. No, is my answer, leave the speed limit like it is .

Thank You,

Tim Reimer