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LATE

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

March 25, 2025
10:01 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 016

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

Senate Committee on Judiciary

The Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) **supports with comments** H.B. 1259, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, which specifies that an engineering study is not required to be considered when reducing the maximum speed limit within 1 mile of a school and 10 miles per hour of the current speed limit and requires HDOT to use National Association of City Transportation Officials guidance when setting a maximum speed limit for sections of highways with residential or commercial areas or schools immediately on a highway.

We request that Section 1 amend 291C-107(a)(2), Hawaii Revised Statutes, to read as follows:

(2) For sections of highways with residential or commercial areas or schools immediately on a highway, the department of transportation shall use guidance provided by the National Association of City Transportation Officials if appropriate; and

H.B. 1259, H.D. 1, S.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

Senate Committee on the Judiciary

03/25/25 10:01AM
CR 016 & Videoconference

HB1259 HD1 SD1 RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Committee Members,

The Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OahuMPO) **supports HB1259 HD1 SD1** 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 and requires the Department of Transportation to use National Association of City Transportation Officials guidance when setting a maximum speed limit for sections of highways with residential or commercial areas or schools immediately on a highway.

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-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2025 2:22:21 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/25/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Frank Schultz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this initiative.