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H.C.R 45/H.R. 38

URGING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO SUPPORT THE COMPLETE TRANSFER OF ITS REGULATORY AUTHORITY OVER MOTOR CARRIERS AND OTHER MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

House Committee on Transportation

The Hawai'i Department of Transportation (HDOT) **supports** H.C.R. 45, which urges the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to support the full transfer of its regulatory authority over motor carriers and other means of transportation to HDOT.

The regulation and enforcement of motor carriers operating on Hawai'i's public highways are critical to ensuring public safety, fair industry practices, and compliance with state laws. Under the current structure, PUC oversees regulatory functions such as tariff structures, financial reporting, and administrative compliance, while HDOT is responsible for enforcement. This split authority creates inefficiencies and operational challenges that impact both government agencies and the regulated industry.

With the passage of Act 117, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2024, enforcement responsibilities were transferred from PUC to HDOT. However, full regulatory authority remains with PUC, which continues to create administrative redundancies and gaps in enforcement. Consolidating both regulatory and enforcement functions under HDOT would allow for a more streamlined, data-driven, and responsive approach to motor carrier oversight.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.