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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
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April 1, 2025
10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 211 & Videoconference

**H.B. 697, H.D. 2, S.D. 1
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION**

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senate Committee on Judiciary

The Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) **supports** H.B. 697, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, which allows authorized employees of the HDOT and Department of Law Enforcement to inspect and provide a certificate of certain evidence of speed limit violations obtained by automated speed enforcement systems. Appropriate funds to the HDOT to establish and implement the automated speed enforcement systems program.

With the success of the two-year pilot program, the HDOT is looking to implement on neighbor islands, where appropriate, and having staff at the state level will help facilitate that and ensure consistent application of the law.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



Testimony of the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

Senate Committee on Ways and Means & Judiciary

**04/01/2025 10:00AM
CR 211 & Videoconference**

**HB 697 HD2 SD1
Relating to Transportation**

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Rhoads, and Vice Chairs Inouye and Gabbard, and Committee Members,

The Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OahuMPO) **supports HB697 HD2 SD1** which allows authorized employees of the Department of Law Enforcement, in addition to county police departments, to perform certain actions in reviewing recorded images produced by automated speed enforcement systems, and appropriates funds from the State Highway Fund to the Department of Transportation to establish and implement the Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program.

This bill would help us achieve our 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 to 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. The State of Hawaii Department of Transportation is working to expand the automated speed enforcement system, which will require the addition of staff within the Department of Transportation as well as Department of Law Enforcement. Additional staff will enable review of evidence and processing of citations efficiently, alleviating potential staffing challenges within county police departments.

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.

TO: Members of the Committees on Ways and Means and Judiciary

FROM: Natalie Iwasa
808-395-3233

HEARING: 10:01 a.m. Tuesday, April 1, 2025

SUBJECT: HB697, HD2, SD1, Relating to Transportation - **OPPOSED**

Aloha Chairs Dela Cruz and Rhoads and Committee Members,

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on HB697, HD2, SD1, which would appropriate funds for the establishment and implementation of an automated speed enforcement systems program, among other things. I oppose this program.

Our legal system was built on the foundation that people are presumed innocent until proven guilty. This program does the opposite of that, requiring innocent people to prove they are not guilty. This is fundamentally wrong.

Please vote "no" on HB697, HD2, SD1.