



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

**Date:** 04/01/2025

**Time:** 02:00 PM

**Location:** 309 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

**Committee:** House Education

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

**Resolution Title:** HCR 0129, HD1 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, AND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI TO COLLABORATE TO PROPOSE VIABLE SOLUTIONS TO IMPROVE PEDESTRIAN AND TRAFFIC SAFETY AND RELIEVE TRAFFIC CONGESTION AROUND HAIKU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on HCR 129, HD 1 regarding Haiku Elementary School. The Department prioritizes the safety of all students and staff, and is committed to working with the State Department of Transportation and the County of Maui's Department of Public Works to improve pedestrian and traffic safety and reduce congestion around Haiku Elementary.

The Department requests that funding be allocated to the State Department of Transportation or to the County of Maui's Department of Public Works to conduct this traffic study, as these agencies have the necessary expertise and jurisdiction over the adjacent roadways. Traffic congestion at Haiku Elementary is primarily due to the school's location and limited access via Pauwela Road. Establishing an additional pick-up and drop-off location at the Haiku Park Community Center could alleviate traffic congestion but would require coordination from families and school staff.

Pedestrian safety is also a concern, worsened by the absence of sidewalks and overgrown vegetation. A road assessment by the County of Maui could identify potential improvements, such as sidewalk installation, although this is outside the Department's scope of responsibility.

The Department thanks the Committee for the opportunity to comment on HCR 129, HD 1.