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April 10, 2025
10:00 A.M.
State Capitol, Room 430

S.C.R 231, S.D. 1
REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO INSTALL AND
UTILIZE ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT AT EACH STATE AIRPORT AND HARBOR TO
SCAN FOR ILLEGAL FIREWORKS

House Committees on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports the intent** of S.C.R. 231, S.D. 1, which requests the Department to scan for and detect illegal fireworks at the State's airports and harbors.

However, DOT does not have the authority or capability to perform the inspections as described in the resolution. For outbound passenger screening, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) are responsible for screening hand-carried and checked luggage. For inbound travel, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) screens arriving passengers, and passenger aircraft cargo is certified by the respective airlines. The Hawai'i Department of Agriculture (DOA) has authority over the inspection of incoming passengers and baggage at airports.

Expanding current screening programs to detect illegal fireworks—whether at airports, cargo operations, or harbors—would likely require new statutory authority, interagency coordination, and significant funding and staffing resources for the agencies with enforcement and inspection powers.

Should the State pursue such efforts, DOT is committed to supporting the lead enforcement agencies and will consult with the Department of Law Enforcement, the Illegal Fireworks Task Force, and key operational partners including airlines, cargo carriers, and harbor users to ensure any proposed solutions are feasible and effective.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

SCR-231-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 2:50:18 PM

Testimony for TRN on 4/10/2025 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support this initiative.