



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

**Date:** 02/08/2019

**Time:** 01:30 PM

**Location:** 225

**Committee:** Senate Education  
Senate Transportation

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

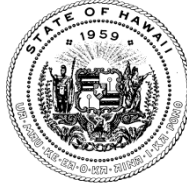
**Title of Bill:** SB 0876 RELATING TO THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM.

**Purpose of Bill:** Requires all public schools in the county of Hawai'i to participate in the safe routes to school program. Appropriates funds to support the safe routes to school program for schools in the county of Hawai'i.

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education supports the intent of SB 876 requiring all Hawaii county public schools to participate in the safe routes to school program because the county-based safe routes to school program provides for community infrastructure improvements strategically designed to reduce vehicular traffic and congestion around schools, enhance student pedestrian and cycling safety to and from schools, and promote the physical well-being of school children.

The Hawaii State Department of Education seeks to advance the goals of the Strategic Plan which is focused on student success, staff success, and successful systems of support. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at [www.hawaiipublicschools.org](http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org).



**TESTIMONY BY:**

JADE T. BUTAY  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN  
DEREK J. CHOW  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 8, 2019  
1:30 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 225

**S.B. 876**  
**RELATING TO THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM.**

Senate Committee(s) on Education and Transportation

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports with amendments** S.B. 876 to require all public schools in the County of Hawaii to participate in the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program and appropriates general revenue funds to support the SRTS program in the County of Hawaii.

1. We request SECTION 1. to read as follows:

All public elementary, intermediate, and middle schools in the County of Hawaii shall participate in the safe routes to school program established pursuant to 291C-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Both Chapter 19-109, Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) and Section 1404 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users, which created the federal SRTS program, specify that SRTS funds shall primarily benefit students in grades K-8.

2. We request the second paragraph in SECTION 2. to read as follows:

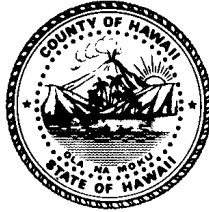
The sums appropriated shall be expended by the County of Hawaii for the purposes of this act.

The County of Hawaii has established a county-level SRTS program as required by Section 291C-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes and Chapter 19-109, HAR. The DOT distributes funds from the SRTS Program Special Fund to counties annually to support county-level SRTS programs in accordance with Chapter 19-109, HAR. The County of Hawaii has received a total of approximately \$487,000 from the SRTS Program Special fund since 2014, and the County of Hawaii SRTS Coordinator is already working collaboratively with schools to identify and implement SRTS strategies.

Additionally, in most cases, elementary and middle school students walk and bike along county routes to get to and from school. If SRTS improvements along state routes are identified, counties could work with DOT to implement these improvements.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

County of Hawai'i  
Council District 9 -  
North and South Kohala



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**Chair:** Committee on Agriculture,  
Water, Energy, and Environmental  
Management

**Vice Chair:** Committee on Finance

**HERBERT M. "TIM" RICHARDS, III**  
**HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL - DISTRICT 9**  
25 Aupuni Street, Ste. 1402, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

February 7, 2019

**Senate Committee on Education**

Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair  
Honorable Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

**Senate Committee on Transportation**

Honorable Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair  
Honorable Senator Dru Mamo Kanuha, Vice Chair

**Submission via online testimony**

RE: **Support of SB 876**  
Hearing Date/Time: February 8, 2019 at 1:30 p.m.

Dear Senators:

As the Chair of the Committee on Agriculture, Water, Energy, and Environmental Management for the Hawai'i County Council, I thank you for the opportunity to submit **testimony in SUPPORT of SB 876**. It is critical that all public schools in the County of Hawai'i participate in the Safe Routes to School Program, and that funds are appropriated to support this participation.

Please feel free to contact me should you need to discuss my position and knowledge of this matter further.

Sincerely,

HERBERT M. "TIM" RICHARDS, III  
Hawai'i County Council, District 9

**LATE**

**SB-876**

Submitted on: 2/8/2019 8:55:23 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/8/2019 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tina Clothier	Testifying for PATH-Peoples Advocacy for Trails Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Tina Clothier and I am the Executive Director of PATH~Peoples Advocacy for Trails Hawaii. Since 2009, PATH has been involved in Safe Routes to School programs and advocacy. In 2014, the County of Hawaii Department of Public Works contracted with PATH to be their Safe Routes to School Coordinator. Hawaii County receives yearly funding from the DOT SRTS Special Fund and we spend the funds in their entirety on SRTS infrastructure improvements. However, there are millions of dollars of potential SRTS infrastructure improvements that we are not able to fund at this time.

Infrastrutture improvements (Engineering) are just one of the 6 Es that make a SRTS program at a school. The others are Education, Encouragment, Enforcement and Evaluation. On the Educaiton and Encouragement front, PATH has been offering Hawaii Island schools Bike Ed for 4th graders and Ped Ed for 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders every school year since 2009. Last year we taught over 1,400 students in 22 schools these important safety skills. That said, we are earger to expand these programs to more schools each year. Additional funding and more instructors would make that possible.

In Hawaii County, we also partner with the Blue Zones project. Blue Zones has been very effective in expanding awareness of SRTS through their program.

While there is a conserted effort by PATH, the County of Hawaii and Blue Zones to make sure that every school has the opportunity to engage in SRTS through the 6 E's, there is so much more work to be done to firmly establish SRTS in all K-8 schools around the island.

Mahalo for your consideration of this important program to keep our keiki healthy and safe.



Testimony in SUPPORT of SB876 RELATING TO THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

To: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair

To: COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair

Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition (KIPC) **SUPPORTS SB 876.**

My name is Lisa Dau, RN, Injury Prevention Coordinator and I represent Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition (KIPC). KIPC **SUPPORTS** the passage of **SB876 Relating to the Safe Routes to School Program** requiring all public schools in the county of Hawai'i to participate in the safe routes to school program.

Children deserve safe places to walk and bike to school. We should be encouraging families to do more walking and riding to school, and families should be able to do so in a safe manner.

We support SB 876. Please consider passing this bill.

Mahalo,

Lisa Dau, RN

Injury Prevention Coordinator

Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition

**LATE**

**SB-876**

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 3:41:32 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/8/2019 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for O'ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-876**

Submitted on: 2/8/2019 12:30:34 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/8/2019 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Daniel Alexander	Testifying for Hawaii Bicycling League	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Hawaii Bicycling League strongly supports SB876 which would establish Safe Routes to School programs at all Hawaii County schools. Safe Routes to School is a crucial program utilizing the 5Es - education, encouragement, engineering, enforcement, and evaluation/planning - to make it safer to walk and bike and get more students walking and biking to school, which has a variety of benefits including improved students behavior and performance and enabling youth to get adequate exercise.

Thank you,

Daniel Alexander and Chad Taniguchi

Hawaii Bicycling League