

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

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

**Date:** 03/23/2023

**Time:** 10:00 AM

**Location:** 312 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

**Committee:** House Transportation

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Resolution:** HCR 0031 URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONSTRUCT AN ALL-WAY CROSSWALK ALONG THE CROSS-STREETS OF KAHUALII STREET, WAIPIO POINT ACCESS ROAD, AND FARRINGTON HIGHWAY.

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) is in support of HCR 31, but defers to the Department of Transportation on the implementation of this measure.

The crosswalk and pedestrian walkways adjacent and leading up to Waipahu High School are heavily congested not only by students and staff of Waipahu High School, but by the community as a whole. The cross streets of Kahualii Street, Waipio Point Access Road, Farrington Highway, and the pedestrian island fronting the school are heavily used and are often overflowing during peak commute times before and after school.

With the most recent pedestrian tragedy near McKinley High School, the Department is in strong support of effective measures to increase pedestrian safety and prevent any pedestrian-related accidents or fatalities throughout our communities and especially near public schools.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of HCR 31.

**HCR-31**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 9:52:57 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/23/2023 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ahrianna Acosta	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Ahrianna Acosta, and I am here to testify in support of HCR31 and HR32. As a student of Waipahu High School, I believe that this bill is important to the people in this community to be safe.

This is needed because it will help with the safety of the civilians in the Waipahu community. The crosswalks in question will be by large crossing points, especially the one on Waipio Access Point which is outside of the high school. The crosswalk is always packed after school where kids are standing on the road. It isn't safe and there have been accidents in the past.

This will benefit the people by helping make the crosswalks safer. The sidewalks we have right now have caused overcrowding on the triangles which stop cars from moving. These cars get upset, and some drivers don't care and will make kids move. This isn't safe and having these crosswalks made will make it much safer for people in the community, especially students like myself.

I have been at the crosswalk on Waipio Access Point after school. It gets so crowded and people tend to push just to be able to stand on the little triangle, so that we were considered "safe" because they weren't on the road, yet there are other people on the road. It is so scary and so dangerous to be on the road or even close to it. There are reckless drivers in Waipahu, and it is one of the scariest things.

In conclusion, I urge the committee to support HCR31 and HR 32 for the benefit of the Waipahu Community and Waipahu High School. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ahrianna Acosta

**HCR-31**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 10:39:57 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/23/2023 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Keisha Arellano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**My name is Keisha Arellano, and I am here to testify in support of HCR31 and HR32. As a student of Waipahu High School, I believe that this bill is important to provide a safer environment for the community.**

**The reason why this bill is needed is because there are many public spaces on our island that may be deemed unsafe.**

**With this bill, it allows us to make that specific hazardous area a better place for not only the youth, but everyone on the island of Oahu.**

**As of 2022, there were about 36% of pedestrians that were killed in pedestrian fatalities in the state of Hawaii alone. There is a possibility that this number could rise if these hazardous areas are not refined. As a pedestrian that walks the crosswalk every single day to get to the bus stop, it is usually crowded which makes it difficult to get to the other side. Along with this, the traffic light is usually too fast which also contributes to the difficulty of crossing the road.**

**In conclusion, I urge the committee to support HCR31 and HR 32 for the benefit of the Waipahu Community and Waipahu High School. Thank you for your time and consideration.**

Sincerely,

**Keisha Arellano**

