EDNtestimony

From:

David.J.Rodriguez@hawaii.gov

Sent:

Tuesday, February 08, 2011 2:41 PM

To:

EDNtestimony

Cc:

Michael.Ng@hawaii.gov EDN Wed Feb 9

Subject:

Attachments:

HB657 Testimony (liq tax for dui programs).doc

The DOT submits (1) testimony for Wed Feb 9

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony David J. Rodriguez Department of Transportation 869 Punchbowl Street, Suite 504 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 (808) 587-2165



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

February 9, 2011

GLENN M. OKIMOTO DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors FORD N. FUCHIGAMI JAN S. GOUVEIA RANDY GRUNE JADINE URASAKI IN REPLY REFER TO:

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

HOUSE BILL NO. 657

COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 657 uses liquor tax revenues to implement programs to prevent drunk driving by persons under 21 years old, as part of existing state driver education and training programs.

The Department of Transportation (DOT) supports the intent of this bill. The proposed driver education program would enhance the existing driver education program in the schools, which will result in better drivers. We support any driver education program that creates awareness for drunk driving, especially for students and young drivers. The knowledge will be beneficial as it will help to save youth from the dangers of drunk driving and promote safe driving practices.

Date: February 8, 2011,

To: House Committee on Education

Rep. Roy Takumi, Chair

Rep. Della Au Bellati, Vice Chair

From: Sharon Vitousek MD,

Re: HB657: Relating to the Driver Education

In Support

Chairs & Committee Members:

I strongly support HB 657 for the following reasons:

- HB 657 will help to address the large problem of impaired driving and help to reduce the associated deaths and injuries, which are disproportionately high on Hawaii Island.
- HB 657 supports prevention education for teen drivers who are at particularly high risk for driving while impaired.
- HB 657 supports driver's education prevention education through the public schools, which is a logical site for driver's education.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,

Sharon H. Vitousek MD,

Kamuela

Member Motor Vehicle Crash Reduction Group on Hawaii Island