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IN REPLY REFER TO:

March 23, 2011

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 45 AND HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 39

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

TITLE: REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY RELATING TO SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS ON ROOSEVELT BRIDGE.

POSITION: The Department of Transportation (DOT) opposes this Bill.

DOT is already conducting an environmental assessment for the Kamehameha Highway Improvements, Lanikuhana Avenue to Ka Uka Boulevard, which includes the Roosevelt Bridge (Franklin D. Roosevelt Bridge). The requested feasibility study will be redundant to this environmental assessment in progress.

The purpose of the environmental assessment is to identify capacity enhancement and safety improvements for this segment of Kamehameha Highway. Currently, the assessment is considering two basic alternatives related to Roosevelt Bridge. The first alternative proposes a major realignment of the roadway that straightens the roadway alignment, which includes the construction of a 2200 foot structure to span the Kipapa Gulch.

The second alternative proposes a parallel bridge that will be constructed along side the existing structure. The existing Roosevelt Bridge would be used for Mililani bound traffic while the new, parallel bridge will be used for outbound traffic from Mililani. Both proposed alternatives provide capacity and safety improvements.

These alternatives will not be final until the environmental assessment process is completed. DOT is expecting to publish the draft environmental assessment in December 2011. This publication provides details of environmental impacts and the aforementioned alternatives; and allows DOT to receive comments from the public and stakeholders.

