

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 505 HD1
A BILL RELATING TO FLOOD MITIGATION

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

BY

EDWARD T. TEIXEIRA
ACTING DIRECTOR OF CIVIL DEFENSE

March 2, 2011

Chair Oshiro and Committee Members:

I am Edward Teixeira, Acting Director of Civil Defense, State Department of Defense. I am providing written testimony on House Bill 505 HD1.

During past flood disasters including the recent heavy rains and flooding caused by severe weather on January 12-14, 2011, State Civil Defense, Department of Defense, has witnessed repetitive flooding in areas along Farrington Highway between Ma'iili and Nanakuli and also in areas inland where poor roadside drainage has contributed to flooded homes, farms, and ranches.

We appreciate the Legislature's interest in addressing repetitive flooding along Farrington Highway through an appropriation for flood hazard mitigation projects. State funds should be appropriated to address repetitive flooding problems in the Lualualei Watershed area. We therefore support the intent of this bill so long as it does not replace or adversely impact priorities as established in the Executive Biennium Budget Request.

We defer to the Department of Transportation for additional comments in support or opposition to House Bill 505 HD1 with respect to Farrington Highway.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on this bill.



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

IN REPLY REFER TO:

March 2, 2011

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

HOUSE BILL NO. 505, H.D. 1

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TITLE: RELATING TO FLOOD MITIGATION

DESCRIPTION: Appropriates funds for flood mitigation on Farrington Highway between Maili and Nanakuli.

POSITION: The Department of Transportation (DOT) supports this Bill, so long as it is accompanied with an independent appropriation that does not impact the DOT's capital program budget and the priority of projects, therein.

Flooding along Farrington Highway between Nanakuli and Maili has been an ongoing issue during periods of heavy rainfall. Our Highways Division's maintenance staff is well aware of the flood occurrences and removes debris from the highway as well as performs inspections of the existing drainage system during and immediately after a major rainstorm.

The appropriation of funds to prepare a feasibility study that include drainage improvement alternatives, costs associated with these alternatives will be most desirable. The results of the feasibility study shall determine additional funds necessary for the design and construction of drainage improvement projects in the area.

Drainage improvements will not only alleviate flooding and improve road conditions during inclement weather but will reduce maintenance costs for the Highways Division.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 1:49 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: l.batten@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB505 on 3/2/2011 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for FIN 3/2/2011 11:00:00 AM HB505

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Lyn Batten
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: l.batten@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

Lyn L. Batten
87-270 Laulele St.
Waianae, Hawaii 96792
WLO Public Hearing
February 02, 2011

Testimony of Lyn Batten
Regarding House Bill 505

Good morning Chairman Chang and members of the committee,

I am a resident of Waianae, Hawaii. I live in Maui and I am a student at HCC. During the last week of January there were very heavy rains which caused flooding in my neighborhood as well as Farrington Hwy. I do not own a car so I have to wake up at 4:30 am every morning to catch the bus to school.

My neighborhood was flooded and I had to walk to the bus stop in about 5 inches of rain water, not to mention it was still raining! I thought I would be fine with my umbrella but by the time I got onto the bus I was drenched. It took us 2 hours just to get out of the Waianae Coast. Then another 2 hours to get to Down Town, Honolulu. Buses are airconditioned, so I froze the whole way and actually caught a cold a few days later.

There is only 1 way in and out of Waianae. The roads were flooded, which caused insane traffic! I like to leave early to avoid the traffic in Nanakuli and avoid the traffic in between there and town. I can't believe that they only had one lane open for the thousands of residents on Waianae Coast. There wasn't even a contraflow lane. Was there no water drainage!? Something needs to be done about the drainage on Farrington Hwy. Soon! I support House Bill 505. There needs to be funds to take care of flood mitigation on Farrington Hwy. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
L.Batten

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Monday, February 28, 2011 8:30 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mjellings@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for HB505 on 3/2/2011 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for FIN 3/2/2011 11:00:00 AM HB505

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Carl P Jellings Sr
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: mjellings@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:
Aloha Represenative Marcus Oshiro Chairman of Finance Committee

And Members of Finance Committee

My Name is Carl P Jellings Sr I testify on this matter because I am VERY familiar with this subject, Towing Our vessel through this area is very challenging We normally drop Our towing speed to 8 or 10 miles per hour it is a stretch of road approx 250 yards long of the most crecherously half sinking road on the Waianae Coast,I am not exagerating this section of road is very dangerous especially for towing and unknowing drivers,

Mahalo for allowing Me the opportunity to Testify on this matter

Aloha

Carl P Jellings Sr,

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 01, 2011 7:51 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: l.batten@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB505 on 3/2/2011 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for FIN 3/2/2011 11:00:00 AM HB505

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lyn
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: l.batten@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/1/2011

Comments:

**I apologize, I did not change the name of the Chairman when I submitted my testimony yesterday morning.

Testimony of Lyn Batten
Regarding House Bill 505

Good morning Chairman Oshiro and members of the committee,

I am a resident of Waianae, Hawaii. I am also a student at HCC. During the last week of January there were very heavy rains which caused flooding in my neighborhood as well as Farrington Hwy. I do not own a car so I have to wake up at 4:30 am every morning to catch the bus to school.

My neighborhood was flooded and I had to walk to the bus stop in about 5 inches of rain water, not to mention it was still raining! I thought I would be fine with my umbrella but by the time I got onto the bus I was drenched. It took us 2 hours just to get out of the Waianae Coast. Then another 2 hours to get to Down Town, Honolulu. Buses are airconditioned, so I froze the whole way and actually caught a cold a few days later.

There is only 1 way in and out of Waianae. The roads were flooded, which caused insane traffic! I like to leave early to avoid the traffic in Nanakuli and avoid the traffic in between there and town. I can't believe that they only had one lane open for the thousands of residents on Waianae Coast. There wasn't even a contraflow lane. Was there no water drainage!? Something needs to be done about the drainage on Farrington Hwy. soon!

I support House Bill 505. There needs to be funds to take care of flood mitigation on Farrington Hwy. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
L.Batten

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Tuesday, March 01, 2011 6:42 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: shaynachunfook@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB505 on 3/2/2011 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for FIN 3/2/2011 11:00:00 AM HB505

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Shayna Chu Fook
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: shaynachunfook@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/1/2011

Comments:

I understand the deficit that Hawaii is faced with, but our district really needs this. The last flood brought up many issues that have been put on the back burner for too long. There was no alternate access out of the district, no emergency plan. The fact is that this is the livelihood of our people along the Waianae Coast. This problem of the most recent flood is due to the fact that certain duties are not being done and no one cares. It is a problem for us because we are the ones experiencing this neglect time after time. If this were to be a situation in Hawaii Kai or Waikiki, funding would be released immediately and the response for remediation would happen overnight. Livestock and farms have been ruined. The flooding reached over 6 feet in certain areas. Medical waste is still washing up on the shores and this could have been prevented. Why is it never a pro-active approach? We cannot stress enough the frustrations that we feel because this is our Hawaii. Why are we so concerned with "Homeless in Waikiki"? Why can we not address the homeless problem that affects our whole island? Please support this bill. This is a priority problem that we must resolve.