Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr. Mayor

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Larry Dill, P.E. County Engineer

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February 12, 2013

Testimony of Larry Dill, County Engineer, County of Kaua'i

Before the <u>Senate Ways and Means</u>: Senator David Y. Ige, Chair & Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

> Wednesday, February 14, 2013 9:05 am Senate Conference Room 211

In consideration of SB 382 RELATING TO FUEL TAX REVENUES

Dear Chair, Vice-Chair, and Members:

I am Larry Dill, County Engineer, County of Kaua'i Department of Public Works (DPW). **DPW is in support of the measure if amended**. Senate Bill (SB) 382 proposes to amend Chapter 243, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, to allow the County of Hawaii to serve its constituents by expending funds from its highway fund to perform necessary maintenance on substandard privately-owned subdivision roads that are used by the public.

In its current form, SB 382 makes no provision to protect the County from liability for personal injuries or property damage, or both, that arises out of the repair or maintenance undertaken by the County nor does it clarify that maintenance activities will not be construed as assuming ownership and jurisdiction over the privately-owned road. If language were incorporated into SB 382 or in separate but concurrent legislation to address both issues, the County of Kaua'i would support the measure and also ask that the bill be amended to allow the County of Kaua'i to use its highway fund for similar purposes.

A separate, but related and long-standing issue is the dispute between the State and counties, known as "roads in limbo." The state and counties need the means to perform necessary maintenance on disputed roads, as well as on privately-owned roads. Thus, the committee may consider amending SB 382 to allow the counties to expend highway funds for work on roads whose ownership is in dispute between the State and county, as well as on privately-owned roads.

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Senator David Y. Ige, Chair & Members the Ways & Means Committee **SB 382 Relating to Fuel Tax Revenues** February 12, 2013 Page 2

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony on SB 382.

Sincerely,

Larry Dill, P.E.

County Engineer

From:	Barbara Franklin
To:	WAM Testimony
Subject:	Comment on SB 382 related to use of fuel tax for private roads
Date:	Tuesday, February 12, 2013 9:46:54 AM

I do not support the use of fuel tax revenues for private roads unless the private roads are brought up to county standards. These roads should not have been allowed to be built to substandard conditions just to make the subdivision parcels cheaper for the buyers. There should be a condition that all roads be dedicated to the county and be built to county standards, thus allowing safe passage for emergency vehicles.

Barbara L. Franklin, Esq. Attorney at Law 45-3438 Mamane Street, Bldg. 2 Honokaa, Hawaii 96727 (808) 775-0530 (808) 775-1040 Fax barbara@island-law.com www.island-law.com

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