



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of
Luis P. Salaveria, Director
Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Wednesday, February 17, 2016
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of
HB2518
RELATING TO TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT.

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair LoPresti, and Members of the House Committee on Transportation.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) supports the intent and would like to offer the following comments on HB2518.

Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART) currently has in place programs and projects that attempts to mitigate the business impact upon firms affected by the rail development.

This bill proposes to provide grants to be made directly to affected businesses.

DBEDT respectfully defers to the Department of Budget and Finance regarding the impact of the proposed business mitigation relief pilot program to the State's budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII
The Voice of Business

**Testimony to the House Committee on Transportation
Wednesday, February 17, 2016 at 10:00 A.M.
Conference Room 309, State Capitol**

RE: HOUSE BILL 2518 HD1 RELATING TO TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair LoPresti, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** HB 2518 HD1, which establishes the business mitigation relief pilot program to assist businesses negatively impacted by the construction of the rail project.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 1,000 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

Many local businesses along the rail project alignment are currently being impacted by the construction activities directly associated with the rail project to the point where the economic viability of certain business establishments is being questioned. While HART and the city are working to provide some relief within federal guidelines, this assistance may not be adequate. We support any assistance to help these businesses being impacted by this large government project.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 8:31 PM
To: TRNtestimony
Cc: lkazama@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2518 on Feb 17, 2016 10:00AM

LATE

HB2518

Submitted on: 2/16/2016

Testimony for TRN on Feb 17, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lacey Shimabukuro	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill. My family owns commercial property and a restaurant on Kamehameha Highway. Construction is taking place directly in front of our property - blocking one lane of traffic in each direction. Turns are also restricted in areas along the highway. Kiewit will soon construct a 6-foot wall along the length of our entire property fronting Kamehameha Highway. HART has been helpful in keeping us informed and offering workshops, but financial assistance is needed. Please support this bill and the many small business struggling through rail construction. Thank you.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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