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Testimony by: FORD N. FUCHIGAMI DIRECTOR

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

## February 21, 2017 9:15 a.m. State Capitol, Room 016

## S.B. 420 RELATING TO LASER DEVICES

## Senate Committees on Judiciary and Labor

The Department of Transportation (DOT) strongly **supports** that a new law is needed due to the recent incidents in which aircraft have become targets of green laser lights while flying or landing at an airport. Lasers present a significant aviation safety risk when directed at aircraft.

The purpose of this act is to make it an offense to intentionally project a laser at an aircraft or in the flight path of an aircraft that may cause bodily injury to the pilot or to the passengers on board. The safety of our traveling public is of the highest priority of the DOT.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.