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

IN REPLY REFER TO:

LATE

March 20, 2019
10:45 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 423

S.B. 1427, S.D. 1
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

House Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** this bill.

Traffic congestion on Kuhio Highway in the Wailua-Kapaa corridor on Kauai continues to worsen, creating significant delays for residents and visitors alike, degrading quality of life for those that live on Kauai, and negatively impacting visitor experiences. The existing contraflow operation serves as an effective mitigation measure to reduce traffic congestion Monday through Saturday. However, on Sundays and holidays, with no contraflow in operation, severe traffic backups can cause traffic delays of an hour or more to motorists.

The DOT has plans for improvements to Kuhio Highway which would eventually eliminate the need for contraflow. The first of these planned improvements, which will add an additional lane to Kuhio Highway from Kuamoo Road to the Temporary Kapaa Bypass, will be advertised for construction this spring. In the meantime, additional funding to expand the contraflow operation to 365 days a year would serve to significantly reduce congestion.

Option A:

Additional annual funding in the amount of approximately $540,000 would fund seven new positions at the Kauai District, and provide for the efficient reorganization of the maintenance crews with appropriate supervisory positions while also enhancing regular maintenance work as overtime would be significantly reduced. Note that the current Saturday contraflow operation is 100% overtime, whereas with the new positions, the Saturday contraflow will be part of regular time scheduled work.
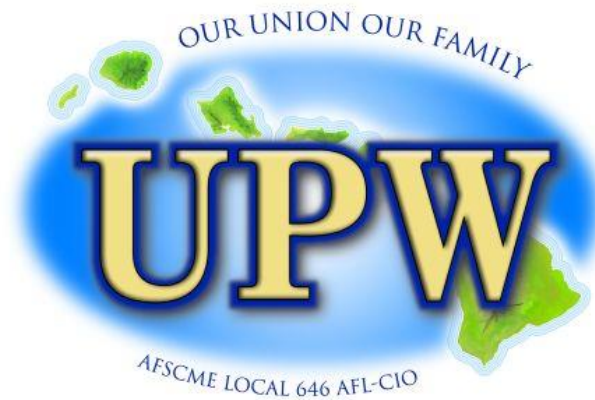
Option B:

Additional annual funding in the amount of approximately $600,000 would fund the private contracting of contraflow operations on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. This would provide the additional benefit of eliminating the overtime costs currently incurred every Saturday, and make the scheduling of regular maintenance activities more efficient, as currently employees are able to accumulate significant amounts of CTO due to the Saturday contraflow.

<u>Option C:</u>

Additional annual funding in the amount of approximately $1.6M would fund the private contracting of contraflow operations 365 days a year. Outsourcing of the contraflow would allow the reallocation of manpower resources to maintenance activities which would significantly enhance the District's ability to meet safety and maintenance requirements of the highway system.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

THE HAWAII STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
The Thirtieth Legislature
Regular Session of 2019

Committee on Transportation
Representative Henry Aquino, Chair
Representative Troy N. Hashimoto, Vice Chair

Date of Hearing: Wednesday, March 20, 2019
Time of Hearing: 10:45 a.m.
Place of Hearing: Conference Room 423
                                 State Capitol

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1427, SD1 RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

By DAYTON M. NAKANELUA,
State Director of the United Public Workers,
AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO ("UPW")

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua, State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO. The UPW is the exclusive bargaining representative for approximately 14,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 01 and institutional, health and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and four counties. The UPW also represents about 1,500 members in the private sector.

SB1427, SD1 appropriates an undetermined amount of funds and positions for the DOT Kauai operations, Kuhio Highway contra flow operations and highway maintenance. The UPW **supports** this measure and appreciates the committee hearing this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.