LATE *Testimony submitted late may not be considered by the Committee for decision making purposes.

<u>HB-1081-HD-1</u>

Submitted on: 3/1/2021 3:22:09 PM Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2021 11:00:00 AM



| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Rachel Roper | Hawaii Department of Transportation | Support | No |

Comments:

I am with the DOT and available for comments

LATE *Testimony submitted late may not be considered by the Committee for decision making purposes.

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN DEREK J. CHOW ROSS M. HIGASHI EDWIN H. SNIFFEN



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

March 2, 2021 11:00 A.M. State Capitol, Teleconference

H.B. 1081, H.D.1 RELATING TO SIDEWALKS

House Committee on Finance

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.B. 1081, H.D.1 and offers comments. H.B. 1081, H.D.1 requires the DOT and each county's transportation department to create and maintain a priority list of sidewalk installation and improvement projects and to publish the priority list on their respective websites.

The DOT supports efforts to improve the pedestrian network. We already have a comprehensive process in place to improve and maintain not only sidewalks, but the DOT's pedestrian network. The DOT's nationally recognized Statewide Pedestrian Master Plan reviewed existing conditions in the DOT's pedestrian network, including the location of facilities (e.g., sidewalks and shared use paths), pedestrian attractors, transit routes, census characteristics, and safety data. Based on existing conditions and input from the public and stakeholders, the project team identified thirty areas of concern and developed recommendations for improving those areas. The DOT has implemented half of the top ten project recommendations. In addition to the Statewide Pedestrian Master Plan, the DOT has existing maintenance contracts for its sidewalk network and maintains a complaint hotline and log for the public to use to notify the DOT of concerns on the DOT system.

The DOT is concerned that the bill's focus on sidewalks would inadvertently exclude rural areas that prefer not to have sidewalks/curb and gutter and prefer instead facilities such as shared use paths that are more consistent with the context of the location. Although the DOT has an existing process in place to improve and maintain the pedestrian network, in order to develop items specifically asked for in the bill, the DOT would need more time than allotted for by the existing initial deadline in the bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



AIKIKI NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 9

/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 925 DILLINGHAM BLVD. SUITE 160 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96817 PHONE (808) 768-3710 • FAX (808) 768-3711 • INTERNET: http://www.honolulu.gov

The Waikiki Neighborhood Board supports the concept of the following bill: SB1081

At the February 9, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Waikiki Neighborhood Board the Board voted in favor of the concept of this bill.

This Bill would seem to support issues like Complete Streets implantation and require Counties to plan for future construction and funding for critical pedestrian and transportation safety.

Robert J. Finley Robert J. Finley Chair

HB-1081-HD-1 Submitted on: 3/1/2021 9:18:50 AM Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2021 11:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Chad Taniguchi | Hawaii Bicycling League | Support | No |

Comments:

The Hawaii Bicycling League supports HB1081HD1 to have the counties plan for and inform the public on sidewalks it plans. Sidewalks provide a dedicated space for people who walk to be separated from car and bicycle users.

This is especially important in areas where people walking have been injured or killed because of lack of dedicated sidewalks. This bill will complement our Vision Zero and Complete Streets policies. It takes money and commitment to reach these goals.

The Hawaii Bicycling League supports safe access to our public roads for all users, with safety priorities for the most vulnerable users, those who walk, bike, take transit, and work on the roads.

Mahalo for passing this important bill.

<u>HB-1081-HD-1</u>

Submitted on: 3/1/2021 7:11:59 AM Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2021 11:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| John Rogers | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

I support HB1081 requiring the transportation departments to create and maintain a priority list of sidewalk installation and improvement projects. This requirement will produce an inventory of pedestrian facilities within the state and subsequently accentuate where pedestrian facilities are needed. This is an equity issue as many of our older neighborhoods do not have sidewalks. Smart Growth America states that between 2008 and 2017 drivers struck and killed 49,340 people who were walking on streets all across America, this is an increase of 35.4% over this time period.

This legislation will facilitate the upgrading our roadways so that they are safe for all users.

Thank You,

John Rogers

Transportation Chair Ewa Neighborhood Board #23