



3/15/2022

TRN Committee  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Ilagan and members of the House Committee on Transportation,

**Position: Support SB2295.**

The Surfrider Foundation is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of our ocean, waves, and beaches. Surfrider maintains a network of over 150 chapters and academic clubs nationwide, including 4 chapters in the Hawaiian Islands. The Surfrider Foundation focuses on many aspects of the environment such as coastal protection, plastic pollution, and water quality.

The coastline of Hawai'i are facing severe chronic erosion that is being exacerbated by climate change and sea level rise. Unfortunately, critical public infrastructure - including critical highways - are in imminent danger from rising seas. Honoapi'ilani Highway on Maui is just one example, recently highlighted on National news, for its extreme vulnerability to sea level rise.

With this in mind, we strongly support SB2295 to require DOT future or amended transportation projects to plan for sea level rise. We hope this will ensure that a more holistic approach is taken for future/amended transportation projects and possibly avoid the major issues that some of our current coastal roads are currently facing.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony in support of SB2295, submitted on the behalf of the Surfrider Foundation's 4 Chapters in Hawai'i and all of our members who live in the state and visit to enjoy the many coastal recreational opportunities offered by all of the islands' coastlines.

Sincerely,

Lauren Blickley  
Hawai'i Regional Manager  
Surfrider Foundation

**SB-2295-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 3:08:16 PM

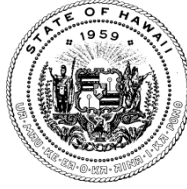
Testimony for TRN on 3/16/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass this simple, commonsense bill.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



**TESTIMONY BY:**

JADE T. BUTAY  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDUARDO P. MANGLALLAN  
PATRICK H. MCCAIN  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

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

March 16, 2022  
10:30 A.M.  
State Capitol, Teleconference

**S.B. 2295, S.D.2**  
**RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

House Committee on Transportation

---

The Department of Transportation (DOT) appreciates the intent of S.B. 2295, S.D.2 and provides **comments**. S.B. 2295 S.D.2 requires the DOT to plan for sea level rise in all future or amended transportation projects and requires to conform to carbon concrete standards.

The DOT as a whole and each modal division is actively working towards planning for sea level rise in the transportation projects. The DOT Highways Division evaluates vulnerabilities of our State Highway System to sea level rise (SLR), coastal erosion, and other impacts of climate change and extreme weather. The recently completed Highway's Climate Adaptation Action Plan evaluates the vulnerability of the State Highway System to climate hazards including future sea-level rise predictions and lava. In addition, the Statewide Coastal Highway Program Report assessed and ranked susceptibility of coastal roads on the State Highway System to erosion and structural degradation due to coastal hazards such as waves, currents, tides, and sea level rise.

The DOT Harbors Division Honolulu Harbor 2050 Master Plan followed guidance from the 2017 Hawaii Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report, which assessed vulnerabilities to coastal hazards associated with SLR. For DOT Airports, "Hawaii Airports System, Climate Change & SLR: Preliminary Assessment for Mitigation and Adaption" report was completed in April 2021. Airports will start a study to look at potential adaptation alternatives which may include constructing shoreline revetment/sea walls. Elevating runways and taxiways would be infeasible without elevating the rest of the airfield, which would otherwise be lower in elevation and will be subject to flooding and become a wildlife attractant.

With respect to the Carbon Concrete specification, the DOT appreciates the amendments made by the Senate committees allowing the director of transportation to issue an exemption to carbon concrete standards upon a determination that such exemption is necessary or when specific projects require different procedures mandated under federal law. The DOT Divisions would need to retain the flexibility of exemption during the unavailability of CO2 from local suppliers or when the divisions are mandated by federal standards. For example, the DOT Airports Division is required to follow the Federal Aviation Administration's Advisory Circular 150/5370-10H, Standard Specifications for Construction of Airports, for airfield work or federally funded projects.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.