

STATE OF HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO

P.O. BOX 2360 HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96804

Date: 01/31/2023 **Time:** 10:00 AM

Location: 312 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Committee: House Transportation

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 0274 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes a two-year pilot program for school bus transportation

hubs in high-traffic areas. Requires a report to the legislature.

Makes an appropriation.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 274 establishing a two-year pilot program for school bus transportation hubs. Moving to a community bus stop structure will help address the school bus driver shortage while allowing the Department to provide reliable and consistent service.

Currently, the Department continues to be over 100 drivers short statewide causing inconsistencies in service and frustration for all. The transportation challenges are unique to each county and it would be best to evaluate the needs on a case-by-case basis to determine the hub locations.

In addition, the Department will provide a report to the legislature outlining hub locations and definition of "high traffic" areas.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony for this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR





TESTIMONY BY:

EDWIN H. SNIFFEN DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
DREANALEE K. KALILI
TAMMY L. LEE
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STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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JANUARY 31, 2023 10:00 A.M. State Capitol, Teleconference

H.B. 274 RELATING TO EDUCATION

House Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.B. 274, which establishes a two-year pilot program for school bus transportation hubs in high-traffic areas. Requires a report to the legislature. Makes an appropriation.

The DOT supports this bill as it will explore options to address the school bus transportation shortage in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.