



TESTIMONY BY:
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
DREANALEE K. KALILI
TAMMY L. LEE
ROBIN K. SHISHIDO
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA



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

April 18, 2023
3:01 P.M.

State Capitol, Room 225 & Videoconference

H.C.R. 133
URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONDUCT A STUDY TO
ESTABLISH SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.C.R. 133 to conduct a study to establish safe routes to schools.

Providing a safe transportation system is integral to the DOT's mission and safety is addressed in every project that is implemented. While the DOT supports creating and maintaining a transportation system that provides safe mobility for all modes and users, we are concerned that this resolution creates processes that are duplicative and would conflict with the DOT's existing efforts.

Safety is the State's #1 priority. We have reported on our robust educational, enforcement, and engineering programs which we implemented to successfully save lives over years. We are proud partners with all counties who are equally dedicated to zero deaths on our roadways. We meet regularly with the four counties and metropolitan planning organizations to discuss project implementation, safety focus, and opportunities for funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act funding and programs, including discretionary grant opportunities for safety such as Safe Streets and Roads for All. In this past federal fiscal year, DOT transferred \$25,000,000 to the four counties to provide funding for transit rolling stock and bus operations. The DOT will be providing up to \$60,000,000 of additional funding this fiscal year. Last year, the DOT also expended more than \$45 million for bicycle and pedestrian improvements, which include expenditures on raised crosswalks in school zones and shared use paths.

The problem DOT has is not lack of process or plans, but a lack of funding. Additional funds dedicated specifically to bicycling and pedestrian safety are key to improving alternative modes of transportation. The DOT supports appropriating \$50,000,000 in general funds to the DOT to address bicycle and pedestrian facilities on State and County transportation systems. The funding could be utilized immediately to advance the highest priority initiatives as identified by legislators, community members, and existing bike and ped plans from counties and the State that includes safe routes to schools.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

HCR-133

Submitted on: 4/18/2023 9:41:21 AM
Testimony for TCA on 4/18/2023 3:01:00 PM

LATE

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kala'e Correa | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I support HCR133 we need our keiki to be safe and this is a very nessesary measure.