



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

March 23, 2023
3:01 P.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

S.C.R. 62

**REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CREATE A
SECOND ACCESS POINT FROM WHITMORE VILLAGE VIA SAIPAN ROAD TO
KAMEHAMEHA HIGHWAY TO ALLEVIATE TRAFFIC ON WHITMORE AVENUE.**

Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports the intent** of S.C.R. 62 and provides the following comments.

Whitmore Avenue (Route 7012) is functionally classified as a minor collector roadway which meets the primary criteria for the State Highway System. But, due to Whitmore Avenue's access to the military facility, the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Station Pacific and National Security Agency Hawaii (NCTAMS PAC), the roadway is eligible for the Federal-Aid System and therefore part of the State Highway System.

It is DOT's understanding that Saipan Drive accesses the NCTAMS PAC and is under the jurisdiction of the Federal government, therefore the DOT recommends the NCTAMS PAC coordinate with the DOT for any proposed additional military facility access to Kamehameha Highway (Route 99).

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

SCR-62

Submitted on: 3/23/2023 10:54:48 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/23/2023 3:01:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Linda Sakamoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the HHS Committee,

I am writing in strong support of SCR 69 / SR 62, which requests the DOH to establish the Beneficial Treatments Advisory Council to review, evaluate, and recommend new mental health treatments.

Over the past two decades, researchers around the world have renewed scientific understanding of the benefits of psychedelic therapies on the brain and body, so it is with growing certainty that scientists and medical professionals are now working with policymakers to bring safe medicines like psilocybin and MDMA above ground for therapeutic uses.

Research from major institutions around the world has shown psilocybin to be a promising clinical treatment tool for a wide range of mental and psychiatric diagnoses including anxiety, addiction, depression, end-of-life anxiety, and more. Similarly, MDMA is showing groundbreaking efficacy in treating post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). As a result, psilocybin and MDMA are increasingly considered some of the most effective, non-addictive, and safe treatment options for treatment-resistant depression and PTSD respectively, when administered in clinical settings. These impressive results have led the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) to grant psilocybin and MDMA their Breakthrough Therapy Designation.

State and County lawmakers now have an essential role to play in the movement toward safe, legal, therapeutic access to psilocybin, MDMA and other psychedelic therapies. Groundbreaking initiatives in favor of psychedelic therapies—like the passage of Measure 109 in Oregon (2020) and Natural Medicine Health Act of 2022 in Colorado—are occurring at all levels of government, private and public research institutions, and throughout mainstream society.

We do not want the citizens of Hawai'i to miss out on these healing modalities. With mental health becoming a more present issue in our communities, everyone knows someone who stands to benefit from access to psilocybin, MDMA and other psychedelic therapies. Please support this measure.

Mahalo