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The State Legislature
Senate Committee on Transportation and Cultural and the Arts
Governor's Message (GM) 580- James Burke
Thursday, April 4, 2024
Conference Room 224
3:00 p.m.

TO: The Honorable Christopher Lee, Chair
FROM: Keali'i S. López, State Director, AARP Hawai'i

RE: Strong Support for GM 580– James Burke

Aloha Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

My name is Keali'i Lopez and I am the State Director for AARP Hawai'i. AARP is a nonpartisan, social impact organization that advocates for individuals aged 50 and older. We have a membership of nearly 38 million nationwide and nearly 140,000 in Hawai'i. We advocate at the state and federal level for issues that matter most to older adults and their families.

AARP strongly supports the confirmation of James Burke to serve on the Safe Routes to School Advisory Board.

AARP has had the pleasure of working closely with James Burke, a longtime volunteer and strong advocate on pedestrian safety and particularly ensuring that there are safe school routes for children as well as parents and grandparents who escort them. Mr. Burke has executive experience as a former administrator, and chief planner of the city and state's mass transit systems including the Honolulu para-transit operations. A dedicated community leader, he represents the interest of older residents and pedestrians, and offers his extensive knowledge and expertise with the multimodal municipal transportation and roadway systems for pedestrians and other road users. Mr. Burke will be a valued asset on the Safe Routes to School advisory board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Mr. Burke's confirmation.



Testimony to the Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts
Thursday, April 4, 2024
3:00 p.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 224 and via videoconference

Re: GM 580 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee, Gubernatorial Nominee, JAMES BURKE, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts:

I am Gary Simon, a member of the board of the Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition, whose mission is to improve the quality of life of those who give and receive care by increasing community awareness of caregiver issues through continuing advocacy, education, and training. I am offering testimony on behalf of the Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition.

The Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition supports the nomination of James Burke to the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee.

I have worked with Mr. Burke on the AARP Hawai'i Community Challenge Grants Committee in 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024. Mr. Burke is fair, objective, thorough, and thoughtful in his work. His expertise in the field of public transportation will serve the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee well.

We urge you to support Mr. Burke's nomination, and we urge you to recommend his confirmation.

Mahalo nui loa,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Simon".

Gary Simon



Email gsimon@aarp.org



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION & CULTURE & THE ARTS
Thursday, April 4, 2024 — 3:00 p.m.

Ulupono Initiative supports GM 580, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee, Gubernatorial Nominee, James Burke, for a Term to Expire 06-30-2026.

Dear Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

My name is Micah Munekata, and I am the Director of Government Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food, renewable energy and clean transportation choices, and better management of freshwater resources.

Ulupono supports GM 580, which submits for consideration and confirmation James Burke to the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Advisory Committee.

Mr. Burke served in many important roles in public transit service over his career. His experience as a mass transit administrator, paratransit operation branch chief, and chief planner within the City and County of Honolulu has provided him with the background and skills to be an asset for SRTS planning and projects.

Ulupono humbly asks this committee and the Legislature for their support of the nomination of James Burke for the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata
Director of Government Affairs

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

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GM-580

Submitted on: 4/3/2024 10:00:51 AM

Testimony for TCA on 4/4/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dan Gardner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Chris Lee, Chair Adrian Tam and Members of the Committees:

My name is Dan Gardner and it my pleasure to strongly support the Governor's nomination of James Burke. I have worked with James on several AARP Volunteer Projects and found him to be dedicated, hardworking, an someone who has always done his "homework." He contributes positively to every endeavor in which he's involved. Level headed and respectful of others, James will surely excel as a member of the Safe Routs to School Advisory Committee. With his experience and proven track record, approval of his nomination should be a "Slam Dunk."

Dan Gardner

Honolulu, Hawaii 96821