TESTIMONY BY:

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STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU 869 PUNCHBOWL STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

April 5, 2024 10:20 a.m. Conference Room 211 & Videoconference State Capitol

H.B. 1932, H.D. 2, S.D. 1 RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

The Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) **supports H.B. 1932, H.D. 2, S.D. 1** which authorizes HDOT to directly acquire and hold title to real property for its purposes.

HDOT strongly endorses efforts to streamline the acquisition and disposition process. Passage of this measure will expedite project completion and improve the public transportation system's safety, efficiency, accessibility, and sustainability.

HDOT requests deferring the effective date until January 1, 2025, to develop administrative rules and align operations for the direct acquisition and disposition process.

HDOT provides comments and suggests amendments to further the intent of this measure.

Amend HRS section 26-19 by deleting the indicated requirements of section 171-53.

Amend HRS section 26-19 by adding two new subsections:

(g) The director of the department of transportation shall be authorized to exercise all of the powers vested in the board of land and natural resources in regard to the approval by the board of land and natural resources for functions subject to chapter 171.

(h) If state lands, other than public lands, under the control and management of another department or agency are required by the department of transportation for purposes of this section or title 15, the department or agency having control and management of the required lands, upon a request by the department of transportation and with the approval of the governor, shall convey title or lease those

lands to the department of transportation upon terms and conditions as may be agreed to by the parties; provided that at the request of the department of transportation, the department or agency shall transfer any land to which it holds title to the department of transportation.

Amend HRS section 171-2 by adding a new subsection:

(16) Lands that are set aside by the governor to the department of transportation, lands leased to the department of transportation by any department or agency of the State, or lands to which the department of transportation holds title;

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.