

**SCR-165**

Submitted on: 4/8/2024 5:06:43 PM

Testimony for TRN on 4/11/2024 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Caroline K. Adolpho	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It's a good start to the process. Molokai residents are suffering with the continual delays, cancellations and lack of transportation options to meet with off-island specialists for medical reasons, spending extra money to fly over a day before and/or after with no reimbursement options.

**SCR-165**

Submitted on: 4/8/2024 9:22:04 PM

Testimony for TRN on 4/11/2024 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jill Coombs	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha and thank you for taking the time to hear my testimony in support of SCR165.

As a Moloka'i resident, the last several years has been nothing short of difficult. Since the closure of the Moloka'i Princess several years ago we were left with only air travel as a commercial way to reach the other islands for work, medical necessities and other trips. At least then we had multiple airlines which gave residents options on flight times and destinations and kept prices reasonable. More recently, all of the other airlines have stopped service to Moloka'i, leaving our remaining means of travel as one singular airline. I can personally testify to the amount of missed doctors appointments, work meetings, mainland connections and other missed opportunities due to lack of travel options.

In addition to missed appointments, the prices of tickets has at least doubled, sometimes tripled from what they were pre-covid. Last summer it was cheaper to take my entire family from Honolulu to Anchorage that it was to fly us from Moloka'i to Honolulu to make the connection. That being said we were lucky to take that trip, and other than that, we have not been able to travel for leisure or send our children to experience things not available on Moloka'i due to the high prices.

Besides the unnecessary rate hikes, the availability and reliability of the airline has been awful. I can not count the number of times (last week Wednesday was the latest) when I had to leave home an entire day early in order to be on Maui or Oahu for work or a medical appointment. This results in a huge undue hardship from rental car fees, meals, and hotel stays as well as time away from my family, missing my keiki's basketball games, not being able to pick them up from school and undue hardship on my husband and the rest of our family and friends to fill in while I spend 8+ hours and no less that \$170 to get to a destination that is only 54 miles away.

This study is a necessary first step to ensure the return of reliable, affordable inter-island travel for Moloka'i residents. Mahalo.



**SCR-165**

Submitted on: 4/8/2024 9:24:50 PM

Testimony for TRN on 4/11/2024 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shantell Pu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha!

I support SCR 165. Many people's frustrations are not being acknowledged.

Our rural community depends on air transportation to travel to outer islands for family visits, medical appointments, and treatments.

However, the community had no other choice in the last few years since Mokulele Airlines was the only airline operating here. We have paid hefty fees for medical assistance. I have expressed my dissatisfaction while employed in Kalaupapa Settlement. The commute takes no more than fifteen minutes to get from Hoolehua, Molokai airport to Kalaupapa, Molokai airport. I've had delayed or canceled flights countless times, but I've also seen planes take off with just one or no passengers.

Molokai General Hospital is the biggest healthcare provider on our island but they are not staffed with the necessary healthcare providers that we need. A lot of the times Healthcare Providers fly in for the day to provide care and services and they experience delays and changes. Please hear Molokai's plea and provide our island with other options that truly exemplify ALOHA!