JOSH GREEN, M.D.

GOVERNOR OF HAWAI'I

KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I



STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO

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Testimony COMMENTING on SCR 32 / SR 21 RECOGNIZING THE ISSUE OF ILLEGAL DUMPING WITHIN THE WAIPAHU COMMUNITY AND URGING THE STATE, CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, AND MILITARY TO WORK TOGETHER TO ADDRESS THIS CONCERN.

SENATOR GLENN WAKAI, CHAIR COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: April 1, 2024 Room Number: 225

1 Fiscal Implications: N/A

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- 2 **Department Testimony:** This resolution requests the State, including the Department of Health
- 3 (Department) to work with the City and County of Honolulu and military to address illegal
- 4 dumping in the Waipahu community, particularly along the West Loch bike path (which the
- 5 resolution says extends from Waipahu to Aiea).

The bike path extending from Waipahu to Aiea is termed the Pearl Harbor bike path as it travels mainly along the shoreline area next to Pearl Harbor starting near Waipahu Depot Road and terminating along Kamehameha Highway near Aloha Stadium. The West Loch bike path is mainly in the Ewa Beach area (although there are plans to connect it to the Pearl Harbor bike path at Waipahu Depot Road).

The Department is willing to investigate any illegal dumping in these areas and would like to obtain information on the specific locations of any instances. We are aware that there are homeless encampments along or near the Pearl Harbor bike path that may contribute a significant amount to the dumping in this area. It is difficult for the Department to enforce and curb any dumping from these sources. Until the homeless issue is resolved, illegal dumping will continue to persist and remain a chronic problem in this area.

- 17 Offered Amendments: None.
- Thank you for the opportunity to testify.