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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 1, 2023
9:30 AM
State Capitol, Room 016 & Videoconference

S.B. 1056
RELATING TO SPEED LIMITS

Senate Committee on Judiciary

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** S.B. 1056 which removes the requirement for an engineering study when reducing the maximum speed limit.

S.B. 1056 will allow flexibility when lowering speeds is necessary for safety. The DOT will be able to implement a lower speed limit at least one month earlier.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

SB-1056

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 8:41:41 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Todd Boulanger	Testifying for Bikeshare Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha kakou committee members,

Bikeshare Hawaii continues to supports SB1056 providing local departments and communities the additional flexibility to right size posted speed limits on our island roadways.

Based on national experience, all to often posted speed limits on existing roadways may be a legacy of historic highway practices, previous rural land uses, and not successfully reflect more recent adopted state / county goals for vision zero and or climate crisis.

All too often in the past, such engineering studies have utilized a very narrow methodology (and outcomes) based on the use of the eighty-fifth percentile measurement of motorized vehical speeds; which all too often works to a slow creep to keep only raising vehical speeds based on rewarding faster and faster corridor speeds over other broader community outcomes. Which then requires more engineering interventions to convert community places into roads and then into wide highways.

Furthermore, we concur with the State of Hawaii Department of Transportation's previous testimony on this senate bill.

Recommend following minor text edits:

- add "motor vehicle" to title and text, such as Relating to Motorized Vehicle Speed Limits; and
- add such engineering studies may also choose methodology from NACTO (National Association of City Transportation Officials), as NACTO's guidance gives practioners a detailed, context-sensitive method (Safe Systems Approach) to set safe speed limits on urban streets and arterials".

Mahalo,
Todd Boulanger, MURP (Transportation)

Executive Director



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SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Wednesday March 1, 2023 - 9:30am

Hawai'i Bicycling League Supports SB1056, relating to Speed Limits

Aloha Chair Rhodes, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Committee Members,

My name is Travis Counsell, and I am the Executive Director of the Hawai'i Bicycling League (HBL). We are a non-profit organization founded in 1975 with the mission of enabling more people to ride bicycles for health, recreation, and transportation. We strive to create communities across our islands that have safe, accessible, and inclusive environments for people to bike, walk, and roll. This means creating infrastructure that is designed for all users with safety as a top priority.

Hawai'i Bicycling League supports SB1056, which clarifies that an engineering study is not required to reduce the speed limit of state or county roadways.

Many of our public roadways travel through residential areas and see heavy use by people who walk and bike. Reducing the speed limit makes our streets safer for all users. Eliminating the need for additional engineering studies to reduce the speed limit will make it easier to ensure the safety of all road users are prioritized.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony. Please support SB1056 and help create safer streets for all.

Ride Aloha,

Travis L. Counsell
Executive Director
Hawai'i Bicycling League

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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR



J. ROGER MORTON
DIRECTOR

JON Y. NOUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TESTIMONY OF J. ROGER MORTON
DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
JUDICIARY

Wednesday, March 1, 2023, 9:30 AM, Via Videoconference

- TO: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair, Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary
- RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 1056, RELATING TO SPEED LIMITS, WITH COMMENTS

The Department of Transportation Services (DTS) of the City and County of Honolulu (City) **generally supports** Senate Bill 1056, relating to speed limits, and provides the following comments.

DTS recommends that the language provide more flexibility for the reviewing agency and that instead of stating that the study requirements "shall not apply," change it to "shall not be mandatory."

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony and these comments.