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

Tuesday, March 31, 2026
10:00 am
State Capitol, 430

HR51 / HCR55
URGING THE HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO UTILIZE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TO MITIGATE TRAFFIC AND IMPROVE ROAD SAFETY IN THE STATE.

House Committee on Transportation

The Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) supports HR 51 and HCR 55.

The resolution urges the Hawaii Department of Transportation and the City and County of Honolulu to explore and implement artificial intelligence (AI) technologies to reduce traffic congestion and enhance road safety across the state. The resolution further requests a comprehensive report on the current state of traffic management technologies in use and an assessment of the feasibility of integrating AI-driven solutions into existing transportation infrastructure.

HDOT recognizes that traffic congestion and road safety are challenges facing Hawaii's transportation network. Oahu's urban corridors, in particular, experience significant levels of congestion that impact commute times, emergency response, air quality, and the overall quality of life for residents and visitors alike. Traditional traffic management approaches, while valuable, have limitations in dynamically responding to rapidly changing traffic conditions. Artificial intelligence offers a transformative opportunity to address these challenges through real-time data analysis, predictive traffic modeling, adaptive signal control, and enhanced incident detection capabilities.

HDOT has consistently demonstrated its commitment to improving traffic flow and pedestrian safety across the state, as evidenced by ongoing evaluations of roadway conditions, intersection safety analyses, and the implementation of traffic calming measures in coordination with the City and County of Honolulu's Department of Transportation Services (DTS). The integration of AI technologies into existing infrastructure aligns directly with these ongoing efforts and represents a forward-thinking, data-driven approach to transportation management.

Furthermore, the requested feasibility report will provide critical information to guide responsible and cost-effective deployment of AI technologies. A thorough assessment

will allow HDOT to identify which existing systems, such as traffic signal controllers, surveillance cameras, and sensor networks, are most amenable to AI integration, and to prioritize investments where they will have the greatest safety and efficiency impact. This measured, evidence-based approach will ensure that Hawaii's transportation agencies can leverage emerging technologies in a manner that is both fiscally prudent and operationally sound.

HDOT looks forward to working collaboratively with the City and County of Honolulu and other relevant stakeholders to explore the full potential of artificial intelligence in modernizing Hawaii's transportation systems and delivering safer, more efficient roadways for all users.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

HR-51
Submitted on: 3/28/2026 7:47:46 AM
Testimony for TRN on 3/31/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Johnnie-Mae L. Perry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry, Support

55 HCR URGING THE HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO UTILIZE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TO MITIGATE TRAFFIC AND IMPROVE ROAD SAFETY IN THE STATE.

HR-51
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 10:50:33 AM
Testimony for TRN on 3/31/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Peggy Regentine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Members of the Committee for HCR55/HR51:

I strongly **support this bill.**

As a former Information Computer Science teacher, I have witnessed firsthand the rapid evolution of technology, especially the rise of artificial intelligence. If we as a state do not embrace and responsibly incorporate these advancements, we risk falling further behind in innovation, efficiency, and quality of life.

1. Anyone traveling across Oʻahu—especially from East Oʻahu to West Oʻahu—knows that what should be a commute often turns into an hour or more of standstill traffic. AI-driven traffic management systems can analyze real-time conditions and adjust signals dynamically, helping to reduce congestion and improve daily life for residents.
2. Along that same route, it is common to encounter one or even two accidents. With smarter electronic signaling and predictive analytics, we have the tools to reduce these incidents. AI can identify patterns, anticipate risk, and improve traffic flow in ways that traditional systems simply cannot.
3. Quite simply—our children are already using AI every day. Data-driven decision-making is the future, and transportation is one of the most important areas where it can make a meaningful impact. Traffic affects our economy, our environment, and our personal well-being.

Let’s use the tools available to us. Let’s move forward, not fall behind!

Peggy Regentine

HR-51
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 11:03:44 AM
Testimony for TRN on 3/31/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terri Yoshinaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

1. Improved Traffic Efficiency and Reduced Congestion
Artificial intelligence can analyze real-time traffic data to optimize signal timing, reduce bottlenecks, and improve overall traffic flow. In a state like Hawai‘i—where geographic constraints limit road expansion—AI offers a cost-effective way to maximize existing infrastructure and reduce commute times for residents.

2. Enhanced Road Safety and Accident Prevention
AI-powered systems can detect dangerous driving patterns, predict high-risk areas for accidents, and support faster emergency response times. By proactively identifying hazards and improving incident management, these technologies can help reduce traffic-related injuries and fatalities across the state.

3. Data-Driven Decision Making for Transportation Planning
Utilizing AI allows the Hawai‘i Department of Transportation and the City and County of Honolulu to make more informed, evidence-based decisions. By analyzing long-term traffic trends and usage patterns, agencies can better plan infrastructure investments, prioritize repairs, and implement targeted safety improvements that benefit both residents and visitors.

LATE *Testimony submitted late may not be considered by the Committee for decision making purposes.

HR-51
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 11:09:21 AM
Testimony for TRN on 3/31/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sheila Medeiros	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support 55 HCR.

Vr

Sheila Medeiros