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

February 19, 2026  
.9:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, RM 430

**H.B. 2333**  
**RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION**

House Committee on Transportation

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) strongly supports H.B. No. 2333, Relating to Transportation. This measure strengthens the Department's ability to maintain safe, secure, and efficiently operating airport environments statewide by authorizing the establishment of airport special district zones.

Hawai'i's airports are critical infrastructure that serve as gateways for residents, visitors, commerce, and emergency response. Our vision is to ensure that airport facilities remain safe, welcoming, and fully operational for those who are traveling, conducting business, or otherwise engaged in legitimate airport activities. Maintaining that environment requires clear authority to address conduct that disrupts operations or compromises safety.

Over the past three years, trespass-related incidents have accounted for approximately 60% of reported airport security cases. Many of these incidents escalate into theft, assault, property damage, public health hazards, and other criminal activity. In 2025 alone, 198 contacts were made involving individuals loitering or remaining on airport property without a lawful or operational purpose. These repeated incidents strain law enforcement resources and create avoidable risks for passengers, employees, and tenants.

Current statutes do not provide sufficient clarity or enforcement tools to address ongoing issues related to unauthorized presence or disruptive conduct within airport operational areas. Existing penalties are limited and do not adequately deter repeat violations. As a result, individuals may return repeatedly, creating continued safety and operational challenges.

HB 2333 provides a clear and practical legal framework by authorizing the establishment of airport special district zones. These zones allow the Department to define boundaries, clarify authorized activities, and prohibit conduct that interferes with airport operations. The bill enables law enforcement and airport personnel to address unauthorized entry, disruptive behavior, or activities that compromise safety in a consistent and enforceable manner.

Importantly, the measure does not restrict legitimate airport users. Individuals traveling, conducting business, working at the airport, providing services, responding to emergencies, or otherwise engaged in authorized activities remain unaffected. Rather, the bill ensures that airport property is preserved for its intended public transportation purposes and that conduct unrelated to those purposes does not impair safe and efficient operations.

By strengthening the Department's ability to manage airport environments proactively, HB 2333 supports safe operations, enhances the passenger experience, protects employees and tenants, and reinforces public confidence in Hawai'i's aviation system.

The Department respectfully urges the Committee to pass this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.



**February 19, 2026**

**TESTIMONY ON H.B. 2333  
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
Representative Darius Kila, Chair  
Representative Tyson Miyake, Vice Chair

Conference Room 430  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

Dear Representatives Kila, Miyake and Members of the Committees:

Airlines for America (A4A)<sup>1</sup>, the principal trade association representing the U.S. airline industry, respectfully submits testimony in support of H.B. 2333, relating to airport special district zones.

Hawai'i's airports are essential infrastructure, serving more than 38 million passengers annually and supporting thousands of aircraft operations each month. As a geographically isolated state that relies heavily on aviation, maintaining safe, secure and efficient airport operations is critical to residents, businesses and visitors alike.

As a federally obligated airport sponsor, the Department of Transportation must comply with federal grant assurances, including Grant Assurance #19, which requires airports to be operated at all times in a safe and serviceable condition and prohibits activities that interfere with airport purposes.

H.B. 2333 appropriately provides the Department with clear statutory authority to establish special airport district zones to prevent unauthorized access, obstruction and disruptive conduct.

Airports are complex operational environments, not traditional public spaces. Disruptions within terminals, roadways or operational areas can create safety risks and systemwide delays. This measure equips the Department, in coordination with law enforcement, with the tools needed to protect passengers, employees and airport operations while maintaining compliance with federal obligations.

Importantly, the bill preserves access for active airport users, including passengers, employees, vendors and authorized personnel, ensuring legitimate airport activity continues uninterrupted.

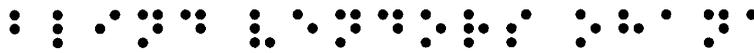
H.B. 2333 is a measured and practical step to safeguard Hawai'i's aviation system.

We respectfully urge your support.

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<sup>1</sup> A4A's members are: Alaska Air Group, Inc.; American Airlines Group Inc.; Atlas Air, Inc.; Delta Air Lines, Inc.; Federal Express Corporation; JetBlue Airways Corp.; Southwest Airlines Co.; United Airlines Holdings, Inc.; and United Parcel Service Co. Air Canada, Inc. is an associate member.

# ***BLIND VENDORS OHANA, INC.***



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## **TESTIMONY TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

9:00 AM Thursday February 19, 2026  
Conference Room 430 & Videoconference

### **HB 2333**

Chair Kila, Vice Chair Miyake, and Members of the Committee,

Blind Vendors Ohana is operating a concession business in the Honolulu Airport. We respectfully submit testimony in support of HB 2333.

As a blind small business, we rely on a safe, clearly regulated, and enforceable airport environment to operate independently and serve the traveling public. Airports are complex and high-traffic facilities. Clear authority for the Department of Transportation to define restricted zones and enforce rules is essential for safety and order.

We strongly support the bill's provisions that prohibit weapons, explosives, and other harmful devices within airport special district zones. The presence of firearms or other dangerous devices in sensitive airport areas raises serious safety concerns for employees, vendors, and passengers. Clear statutory authority strengthens enforcement and removes ambiguity.

The bill also makes it unlawful to obstruct airport public right-of-way areas by sitting, sleeping, lying down, or storing property. We employ many individuals who navigate the airport without sight, and who on mobility assistance devices. They require clear, unobstructed pathways to move safely and independently throughout the airport. Blocked walkways create real safety risks and limit their ability to move independently. These obstructions also discourage customers from accessing concession businesses.

Importantly, this measure gives DOT and law enforcement clear, enforceable authority to remove violators, issue citations, and maintain airport facilities in a safe and serviceable condition. At the same time, it appropriately protects active airport users, including concessionaires and vendors, so that we may continue operating without disruption.

Airports are critical infrastructure for Hawai'i. Small businesses like ours depend on safety, accessibility, and consistent enforcement.

We respectfully ask you to pass HB 2333.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

## AIRLINES COMMITTEE OF HAWAII



Daniel K. Inouye International Airport  
Terminal 1, Third Floor  
300 Rodgers Blvd., #62  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819-1832  
Phone (808) 838-0011  
Fax (808) 838-0231

Representative Darius Kila, Chair  
Representative Tyson Miyake, Vice Chair  
Committee on Transportation

RE: **HB 2333 – Relating to Transportation – In Support**  
Thursday, February 19, 2026; 9:00 a.m.  
Conference room 430

Aloha Chair Kila, Vice Chair Miyake and members of the committee:

The Airlines Committee of Hawaii (ACH), comprised of 19 signatory air carriers that underwrite the State airport system, appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 2333, which authorizes the Department of Transportation (DOT) to designate airport special district zones within airports statewide, and adds a new HRS section to help prevent unauthorized access and enhance security.

There have been incidents leading to unexpected and significant delays for travelers at Hawaii airports, as well as on-going issues with security, labor and overall traveler experience. HB 2333 will help address these issues by creating a legal framework for authorized activities, prohibiting unauthorized or disruptive activities and strengthening enforcement.

This bill aligns with the DOT's mission to develop and maintain a safe and efficient global air transportation system.

*\*ACH members are Air Canada, Air New Zealand, Alaska Airlines, All Nippon Airways/Air Japan, Aloha Air Cargo, American Airlines, China Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Federal Express, Fiji Airways, Hawaiian Airlines, Japan Airlines, Korean Airlines, Philippine Airlines, Qantas Airways, Southwest Airlines, United Airlines, United Parcel Service, and WestJet.*

We ask for your favorable consideration in passing this measure to enhance the safety and security for both the traveling public and airport employees at all Hawaii airports.

Sincerely,

ACH Executive Committee



Brendan Baker



David Sellers



Elizabeth Loomis



Randall Fiertz



Richard Ide

Honorable Darius Kila  
Chair, Committee on Transportation  
House of Representatives  
Hawaii State Legislature  
State Capitol Building

Room 430, February 19, 2026

Re: HB 2333 – Relating To Transportation

Dear Chair Kila and Honorable Committee Members,

My name is James Stone writing to you as an individual in strong support of this bill.

It's important that our State airports meet our grant assurances and the minimum standards as applicable by federal, state and local agencies. Our Hawaii Department of Transportation should have rights to ensure safe operations of our airports including the traveling public and airport employees.

I urge you to please support this bill, it's forward movement and approval. Thank you.

Respectfully yours, James Stone, 900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 920,  
Honolulu, HI 96813. Telephone : 808-2237810.