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SB3157
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

House Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) supports S.B. 3157, which amends Hawaii Revised Statutes sections 291C-161 and 291L-10 to enhance the management and allocation of funds within the Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program Special Fund.

This bill establishes that unencumbered and unexpended moneys in excess of \$12,000,000 remaining in the Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program Special Fund as of June 30 each year shall lapse to the state general fund. Additionally, it removes restrictions on county-specific fund allocations based on locally collected fees, allowing the Department of Transportation greater flexibility in deploying resources where they are most needed for the effective operation and maintenance of automated speed enforcement systems.

The DOT fully supports this approach as it promotes fiscal responsibility while ensuring that the program remains sustainable and responsive to evolving traffic safety needs. By enabling the reallocation of surplus funds to the general fund, the bill allows the State to leverage these resources for broader public priorities without compromising the core mission of improving roadway safety.

We also support the removal of county-specific expenditure restrictions because it provides the Department with the operational flexibility required to address varying traffic enforcement demands across the state. This enhanced adaptability ensures that resources can be directed toward system upgrades, technology improvements, and emergency response capabilities, thereby strengthening the overall effectiveness of the automated speed enforcement program.

The bill aligns with the Department's commitment to maximizing the efficiency and impact of public investments in transportation safety. We believe that this legislation will help maintain robust funding for automated speed enforcement systems while promoting responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars.

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