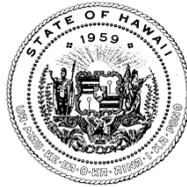


JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



EDWIN H. SNIFFEN  
DIRECTOR  
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

Deputy Directors  
Nā Hope Luna Ho'okele  
DREANALEE K. KALILI  
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**STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU**  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

Tuesday, February 10, 2026  
3:02 PM  
State Capitol, 229

**SB3234**  
**RELATING TO TRAFFIC SAFETY**

Senate Committee on Transportation

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The Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) is in strong support of SB 3234, which appropriates moneys to the Department of Transportation to install all-way crosswalks at sites abutting school properties.

This bill aligns with the HDOT's ongoing commitment to prioritize pedestrian safety, particularly in areas frequented by our most vulnerable road users - children. The installation of all-way crosswalks when installed at the appropriate locations are a proven and effective measure to enhance safety and reduce the risk of pedestrian-related accidents.

The HDOT recognizes the critical importance of creating safe routes to school and providing adequate infrastructure to protect students as they navigate to and from educational facilities. All-way crosswalks offer increased visibility and clearer right-of-way for pedestrians, which is especially crucial in high-traffic areas.

While we anticipate that the installation of these crosswalks may result in some traffic delays, particularly during peak school hours, we believe that the safety benefits far outweigh any potential inconvenience. Our department is committed to optimizing both pedestrian safety and traffic flow to ensure the best possible outcomes for all road users.

The funds appropriated through this bill will enable the HDOT to systematically evaluate and address the need for improved pedestrian infrastructure at school sites across the state. This proactive approach aligns with our Vision Zero goals and our ongoing efforts to reduce traffic fatalities and serious injuries, especially among our youth.

We view this initiative as a valuable investment in our communities, one that will contribute significantly to the creation of safer, more walkable neighborhoods around our schools. The HDOT is prepared to efficiently utilize these funds to implement these vital safety improvements.

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



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

**Date:** 02/10/2026

**Time:** 03:02 PM

**Location:** CR 229 & Videoconference

**Committee:** TRS

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** SB3234, RELATING TO TRAFFIC SAFETY.

**Purpose of Bill:** Appropriates moneys to the Department of Transportation to install all-way crosswalks at sites abutting school properties.

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports SB 3234 appropriating funds to the Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) to install all-way crosswalks at sites abutting school property.

SB 3234 strengthens student safety by addressing one of the highest-risk areas for students - crossing busy streets near schools. All-way crosswalks reduce conflict between vehicles and pedestrians and create predictable crossing conditions, critical for students who may have difficulty judging traffic movement. This simple, effective infrastructure protects students during the most dangerous times of day-morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up.

The bill aligns with Safe Routes to School objectives by improving walkability, reducing near-misses, and encouraging healthier, safer travel to campus. Importantly, SB 3234 enables proactive, rather than reactive, safety improvements by allowing HDOT to identify and upgrade high-risk school-adjacent intersections before injuries occur.

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



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SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
Tuesday - February 10, 2026 - 3:02pm

**Hawai'i Bicycling League Strongly Supports SB 3234, relating to Traffic Safety**

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and members of the Committee,

My name is Eduardo Hernandez and I am the Advocacy 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.

HBL strongly supports SB3234, to fund the installation of all-way crosswalks at sites abutting school properties. This is an essential investment in safety to especially protect vulnerable road users and everyone who attends, visits, or works at public schools across Hawai'i. All-way crosswalks enhance visibility by stopping all vehicular traffic in an intersection to allow for pedestrians and people biking and rolling to proceed.

Given that 2025 was one of the deadliest years in decades on Hawai'i roads, it is imperative to take bold action to influence public behavior change and raise awareness for vulnerable road users and their rights to safely get to and from schools. This bill is one key example that can be implemented to protect people crossing streets near schools and elevate public policy discussions to influence behavior change across the board.

Biking, walking, rolling, and using public transit are threads of a public safety net that protects everyone. This bill is a step toward creating practical solutions for youth and families to adopt safer behaviors and transportation routines and learn about multimodal options to get to school and work.

HBL urges you to support this bill and help leverage the safety benefits it presents so that individuals and families can be better protected on their way to and from school. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

S/Eduardo Hernandez

**Eduardo Hernandez**  
Advocacy Director  
Hawai'i Bicycling League



## HIPHI Board

May Okihiro, MD, MS  
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Medical-Legal Partnership  
For Children in Hawai'i

JoAnn Tsark, MPH  
John A. Burns School of Medicine, Native  
Hawaiian Research Office

Danette Wong Tomiyasu, MBA  
Retired, Hawai'i State Department of  
Health

## HIPHI Initiatives

Coalition for a  
Tobacco-Free Hawai'i

Community-Based Research &  
Evaluation

Community Health  
Worker Initiatives

Environmental Health

Hawai'i Climate Change and Health  
Working Group

Hawai'i Drug & Alcohol-Free Coalitions

Hawai'i Immunization Coalition

Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition

Hawai'i Public Health Training Hui

Healthy Eating + Active Living

Kūpuna Collective/Healthy Aging &  
Community Living

Public Health Workforce Development

Date: February 9, 2026

To: Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair  
Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Transportation

RE: Support for SB 3234, Relating to Traffic Safety

Hrg: February 10, 2026 at 3:02 PM in Conference Room 229

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Hawai'i Public Health Institute (HIPHI)<sup>1</sup> and the Healthy Eating + Active Living<sup>2</sup> (HEAL) Statewide Coalition are in **support of SB 3234**, which appropriates funding to the Department of Transportation to install all-way crosswalks at sites abutting school properties.

This bill takes an important step toward improving the safety of our students and the surrounding communities.

### Crosswalks are Good for Safety and Active Lifestyles

Safe street crossings are important for students and families to feel comfortable walking and biking to school. When keiki have safe routes, they get more physical activity, build independence, and arrive at school ready to learn.<sup>3</sup>

Appropriating funds to install all-way crosswalks at sites next to school properties creates safe routes and aligns with the purpose of the statewide Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program. SRTS<sup>4</sup> strives to:

- Enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school;

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<sup>1</sup> Hawai'i Public Health Institute's mission is to advance health and wellness for the people and islands of Hawai'i. We do this through expanding our understanding of what creates health of people and place, fostering partnerships, and cultivating programs to improve policies, systems, and the environments where people live, learn, work, age, and play.

<sup>2</sup> The Healthy Eating + Active Living (HEAL) Coalition, formerly known as the Obesity Prevention Task Force, was created by the legislature in 2012 and is comprised of over 60 statewide organizations. The HEAL Coalition works to make recommendations to reshape Hawai'i's school, work, community, and health care environments, making healthier lifestyles obtainable for all Hawai'i residents.

<sup>3</sup> Safe Routes Partnership. (n.d.). Safe Routes to School. Retrieved February 9, 2026 from, <https://saferoutespartnership.org/safe-routes-school/>

<sup>4</sup> Hawai'i Department of Transportation. (n.d.). Safe Routes to School Program. Retrieved February 9, 2026 from, <https://hidot.hawaii.gov/highways/srts/>



- Make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age; and
- Facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of schools.

All-way crosswalks at school complexes would provide safe access, reduce traffic congestion, and help keiki be healthy, independent, and thrive.

HIPHI and the HEAL coalition support SB 3234 and respectfully ask the committee to pass this measure.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Nate Hix'.

Nate Hix  
Director of Policy and Advocacy



**LATE**

## Testimony of the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

### Committee on Transportation

February 10, 2026 at 3:02 PM  
Conference Room 229

### SB 3234 Relating to Traffic Safety

Dear Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and Committee Members,

The Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (Oahu MPO) **supports the intent of SB3234**, which appropriates moneys to the Department of Transportation to install all-way crosswalks at sites abutting school properties.

This bill aligns with several goals of the Oahu Regional Transportation Plan, including support for active and public transportation, promoting an equitable transportation system, and improving air quality and protecting environmental and cultural assets.<sup>1</sup> Enhancing pedestrian safety infrastructure will make it safer and easier for students to walk to school.

All-way crosswalks, which stop all vehicle traffic to allow pedestrians to cross in any direction, including diagonally, represent an effective pedestrian safety strategy with documented benefits<sup>2</sup>. Research has shown significant safety improvements: a San Francisco study found vehicle-pedestrian conflicts decreased from 7.0% to 1.1%,<sup>3</sup> and a Los Angeles intersection that averaged 13 crashes per year experienced zero crashes after installation.<sup>4</sup>

However, all-way crosswalks may not be the optimal solution for every location, as they are most effective at signalized intersections with high pedestrian volumes crossing in multiple directions. As such, we respectfully suggest that the funds be flexible to allow for tailored safety solutions. At unsignalized intersections or locations with different traffic patterns, for example, alternative safety measures such as enhanced crosswalk markings, pedestrian refuge islands, traffic calming measures, raised crosswalks, or improved signage may provide more appropriate protection. Each location should be evaluated based on objective criteria, including traffic volumes, crash history, intersection configuration, and pedestrian patterns, to ensure the most effective safety solution is implemented at each school site, maximizing the benefit of the invested funds.

Children are particularly vulnerable road users due to their smaller size, less developed hazard perception skills, and unpredictable behavior in traffic situations. Installing appropriate pedestrian safety infrastructure at school sites creates safer environments that protect our keiki while encouraging families to allow their children to walk or bike to school, which reduces traffic congestion around schools, improves children's physical health and fitness, enhances

<sup>1</sup> [https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb\\_dl=2215](https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=2215)

<sup>2</sup> [https://nacto.org/wp-content/uploads/relative\\_effectiveness\\_of\\_pedestrian\\_safety\\_counter\\_measures\\_chen.pdf](https://nacto.org/wp-content/uploads/relative_effectiveness_of_pedestrian_safety_counter_measures_chen.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <https://highways.dot.gov/safety/pedestrian-bicyclist/safety-countermeasures/san-francisco-pedsafe-phase-ii-final-5>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.carlsonattorneys.com/what-are-the-benefits-of-pedestrian-scramble-crosswalk/>

independence and confidence, and reduces vehicle emissions near school campuses where children's developing lungs are particularly vulnerable to air pollution.

The OahuMPO is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) on the island of Oahu responsible for carrying out a multimodal transportation planning process, including the development of a long-range (25-year horizon) metropolitan transportation plan, referred to as the Oahu Regional Transportation Plan (ORTP), which encourages and promotes a safe and efficient transportation system to serve the mobility needs of people and freight (including walkways, bicycles, and transit), fosters economic growth and development, and takes into consideration resiliency needs, while minimizing fuel consumption and air pollution (23 CFR 450.300).

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

**SB-3234**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 10:07:44 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/10/2026 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael Butel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of SB3234 in order to make our roads safer for children and pedestrians. Well designed crosswalks establish clearly visible means for motorist to recognize there is a dedicate place and means for pedestrians to cross streets. Having a safe means to walk to schools encourages healthy walking activities for children as well as reducing the number of parents crowding the roadways by having to drive in order to drop off children.

MB (HI Bicycle Legue Mbr)

**SB-3234**

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 1:45:34 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/10/2026 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John Rogers	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Senator Inouye, Vice Chair Senator Elefante and Committee Members,

I support SB3234 which would appropriate moneys to the Department of Transportation to install all-way crosswalks at sites abutting school properties. This initiative is a great idea and I believe will create a safer commute to school.

Best Regards,

John Rogers

Ewa NB #23 Transportation Committee Co-chair and a member of the Hawaii Bicycling League

**LATE**

**SB-3234**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 10:21:55 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/10/2026 3:02:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kalae	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We need solutions that genuinely keep students safe.

Students often cross wherever an opportunity appears, even when it's not a designated crossing point. Installing all-way crosswalks reduces unsafe, illegal crossings and gives students a protected, predictable place to cross. This simple change lowers risk, improves visibility, and creates a safer environment for everyone moving through the area.