

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 7TH FLOOR • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 768-8000 • FAX: (808) 768-6041
DEPT. WEB SITE: www.honolulu.dpp.org • CITY WEB SITE: www.honolulu.gov

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



GEORGE I. ATTA, FAICP
DIRECTOR

ARTHUR D. CHALLACOMBE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 26, 2015

The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Ways
and Means
Hawaii State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Tokuda and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 1180, SD1
Relating to Metropolitan Planning Organizations

The Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) **supports** Senate Bill No. 1180, SD1, which would repeal Chapter 279E, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), and create a new chapter with revised requirements for metropolitan planning organizations.

A 2014 joint certification review of the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OahuMPO), the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration, found that portions of HRS 279E conflict with Federal regulations. The new chapter of the HRS provides the OahuMPO with the authority to comply with Federal laws applicable to metropolitan planning organizations. If the OahuMPO is not in compliance by the established deadlines and is not certified, 20 percent of the apportionment attributed to the metropolitan planning area (approximately \$12 million in highway and transit funding) may be withheld.

Please move Senate Bill No. 1180, SD1, forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "George I. Atta".

George I. Atta, FAICP
Director

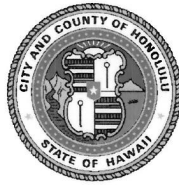
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 3RD FLOOR
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

Phone: (808) 768-8305 • Fax: (808) 768-4730 • Internet: www.honolulu.gov

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



MICHAEL D. FORMBY
DIRECTOR

MARK N. GARRITY, AICP
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 25, 2015

The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means
State Senate
State Capitol, Room 207
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: Testimony on Senate Bill No. 1180, Senate Draft 1 Relating to
Metropolitan Planning Organizations

The Department of Transportation Services previously supported Senate Bill 1180 before the Senate Committee on Transportation and continues to support Senate Bill 1180, Senate Draft 1, as drafted, for the same reasons. A copy of our support letter is attached for your reference.

I am therefore strongly encouraging that the subject bill be passed by this committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony on Senate Bill No. 1180, Senate Draft 1.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael D. Formby", is written over the typed name and title.

Michael D. Formby
Director

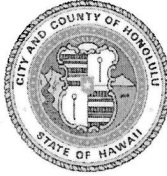
Attachment

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KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



MICHAEL D. FORMBY
DIRECTOR

MARK N. GARRITY, AICP
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 6, 2015

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Transportation
State Senate
State Capitol, Room 204
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Nishihara and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: Testimony on Senate Bill No. 1180 Relating to Metropolitan
Planning Organizations

The Department of Transportation Services strongly supports the passage of Senate Bill No. 1180 Relating to Metropolitan Planning Organizations.

As a key participating agency in the OahuMPO, our department recently participated in the federal certification review of the OahuMPO. A key finding of the review (Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization: TMA Certification Review, September 25, 2014 Final Report) was that the existing Hawaii Revised Statute (HRS) Chapter 279E related to Metropolitan Planning Organization conflicts with current federal transportation regulations 23 U.S.C 134 and 135 and 23 CFR 450. This conflict needs to be rectified in order for the OahuMPO to maintain its federal TMA (Transportation Management Area) certification.

The stated consequences of a de-certification of the OahuMPO would be a withholding of up to 20% of federal surface transportation funds normally attributable to Oahu. This has been calculated by FHWA (Federal Highway Administration) and FTA (Federal Transit Administration) to be about \$12 million annually.

The withholding of such federal funds would be detrimental to our department's funding of transportation studies, programs and projects. Both our roadway and transit funding would be significantly impacted.

I am therefore strongly encouraging that the subject bill be passed by this committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony on Senate Bill No. 1180.

Very truly yours,


Michael D. Formby
Director

SB1180

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2015 13:00PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Gibson	OahuMPO	Support	Yes

Comments: Per Federal corrective action, failure to amend HRS 279E this session will result in decertification of OahuMPO and an immediate financial impact to surface transportation funding for Oahu. I urge your approval.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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