

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



**TESTIMONY BY:**

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**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

Thursday, March 25, 2021  
3:00 P.M.  
State Capitol, Teleconference

**S.C.R. 51 / S.R. 33**  
**RELATING TO REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO**  
**CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE FLOODING ISSUES AT THE INTERSECTION OF**  
**MAMALAHOA HIGHWAY AND MELEANA PLACE ON THE ISLAND OF HAWAII**

Senate Committee on Transportation

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **opposes** S.C.R. 51 / S.R. 33, which requests the DOT to conduct a study of the flooding and safety issues and to prepare a plan to remediate the flooding issues at the intersection of Mamalahoa Highway and Meleana Place.

Although DOT is in the process of acquiring this portion of the highway from Hawaii County for consistency and continuity, while exchanging portions on the State system that do not fall within our mission, this area is currently under the jurisdiction of the County of Hawaii and is not on the State Highway System. Therefore, it would be appropriate for the County of Hawaii to conduct this study.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**LATE**

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Transportation (TRS)  
Thursday, March 25, 2021; 3:00 p.m.

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye and Members of the  
Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony **in strong support** of SCR51/SR33. I have been working with Senator Kanuha's office to resolve this flooding problem.

My residence is located near the intersection of Meleana Place and Mamalahoa Highway. For about 20 years after a number of modifications to the flow of water in my area, I've experienced flooding issues on my property. The major issues began around the time of building Konawaena Elementary School and related improvements to Mamalahoa Highway.

During floods, water runs from the top of the wall to a culvert at the base of my property, which gets backed up and pools unsafely in the adjacent yards and on Mamalahoa Highway. This flooding issue could result in property damage or injury for myself or my neighbors.

Therefore, I believe it would be appropriate for the Department of Transportation to conduct a study of the flooding issues at the intersection of Mamalahoa Highway and Meleana Place on the Island of Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written and oral testimony on this important measure.

Mahalo,

Richard Kunitomo  
Kealakekua, HI