

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 421

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 20 2015

RE: S.B. No. 1180  
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2015  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committees on Transportation and Public Safety,  
Intergovernmental and Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B.  
No. 1180 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO METROPOLITAN PLANNING  
ORGANIZATIONS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to repeal chapter  
279E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and create a new chapter in the  
Hawaii Revised Statutes with revised requirements for metropolitan  
planning organizations to ensure compliance with federal law.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Department of Transportation Services of the City and  
County of Honolulu, Department of Planning and Permitting of the  
City and County of Honolulu, Citizens Advisory Committee of the  
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization, and one individual. Your  
Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from  
two individuals. Your Committees received comments on this  
measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Office of  
Information Practices.

Your Committees find that federal laws require that  
metropolitan planning organizations be designated based on a  
minimum population threshold as defined in federal law to act as a  
decision-making agency and to receive certain funds for the  
purpose of carrying out a continuing, cooperative, and  
comprehensive transportation planning process.

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Your Committees further find that it is the responsibility of the policy board of the Metropolitan Planning Organization to make decisions that are the result of the continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process, and the organization's staff support and provide technical resources to the policy board. The continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive planning process is designed to provide orderly and reasoned metropolitan transportation planning within the framework of federal law, and adequate and informed representation from state and county governments.

Your Committees further find that existing state law conflicts with current federal transportation regulations. This conflict needs to be rectified in order for the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization to maintain its federal Transportation Management Area certification. According to testimony, the consequences of a de-certification by the federal government would be a withholding of up to twenty percent of federal surface transportation funds normally distributed to Oahu, or about \$12,000,000 annually.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the Oahu metropolitan planning organization special fund and creating a metropolitan planning organization revolving fund for each metropolitan planning organization to accurately reflect the nature of the fund as continuously receiving and expending monies;
- (2) Clarifying that:
  - (A) The metropolitan planning organization revolving fund may receive federal funds or grants;
  - (B) Funds in the metropolitan planning organization revolving fund for each county shall be expended by the applicable county for purposes of transportation planning in accordance with federal law;
  - (C) The metropolitan planning organization for a particular county may expend funds from their

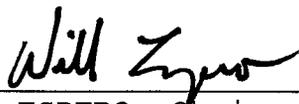


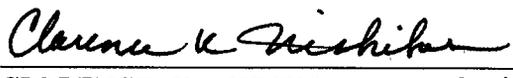
respective revolving fund without necessity of an appropriation; and

- (D) Each metropolitan planning organization having a revolving fund shall report annually to the Legislature on a detailed accounting of the activities of their respective revolving fund for the previous year;
- (3) Deleting the exemption for special fund reimbursements for departmental administrative expenses since the metropolitan planning organization revolving fund is no longer a special fund; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Transportation and Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1180, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1180, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

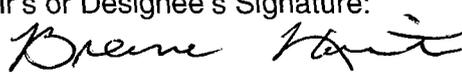
Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committees on Transportation and Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs,

  
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WILL ESPERO, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, Chair

The Senate  
Twenty-Eighth Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Transportation**  
**TRA**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 1180</b>	Committee Referral: <b>TRA/PSM, WAM</b>	Date: <b>2/17/15</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (C)	✓			
HARIMOTO, Breene (VC)	✓			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	✓			
ESPERO, Will	✓			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	✓			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	✓			
KOUCHI, Ronald D.	✓			
SLOM, Sam				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>			<b>1</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original                      Yellow                      Pink                      Goldenrod File with Committee Report    Clerk's Office            Drafting Agency        Committee File Copy				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes

