

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 1, 2008

RE: H.B. No. 2745

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2008
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Transportation, to which was referred H.B. No. 2745 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MASS TRANSIT ROUTE ECONOMIC ZONES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to examine the economic and human impacts any future mass transit system on the island of Oahu may have on communities along the chosen route by creating a task force to:

- (1) Examine the feasibility of establishing economic zones proximate to the route or routes of any future mass transit system on the island of Oahu, particularly in areas surrounding transit stops;
- (2) Recommend parameters for the creation of mass transit route economic zones including, among other things, geographic criteria, business eligibility, and benefits and incentives such as tax credits; and
- (3) Submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the legislature prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2009.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) and Department of Taxation supported the intent of this bill. The Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and

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County of Honolulu testified in opposition to this measure. A concerned individual commented on this bill.

The City and County of Honolulu is currently in the process of establishing a mass transit system for the island of Oahu, including the finalization of its initial route. While the establishment of this mass transit system is expected to have positive impacts on the community it will serve, negative impacts, particularly on existing businesses near the mass transit routes, are also expected. Issues such as affordable housing, convenient shopping and parking, and business incentives for areas near the transit route also need to be examined to make the system more viable. Your Committee finds that the establishment of a task force within DBEDT to examine this issue will only enhance the viability of a mass transit system for Oahu.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2745 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Economic Development & Business Concerns.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Transportation,

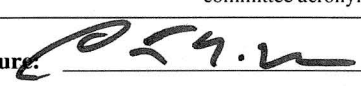


JOSEPH M. SOUKI, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-fourth Legislature

Record of Votes of the Committee on Transportation

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 2745	Committee Referral: TRN, EDB, FIN	Date: 2008 Jan 28		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
TRN Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. SOUKI, Joseph M. (C)	/			
2. NISHIMOTO, Scott Y. (VC)	/			
3. EVANS, Cindy	/			
4. HAR, Sharon E.				/
5. LEE, Marilyn B.	/			
6. LUKE, Sylvia				/
7. McKELVEY, Angus L.K.				/
8. NAKASONE, Bob	/			
9. SONSON, Alex M.				/
10. TAKAMINE, Dwight Y.	/			
11. TAKUMI, Roy M.				/
12. MEYER, Colleen Rose				/
13. PINE, Kymberly Marcos		/		
TOTAL (13)	6	1		6
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: 				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office				