



ADDRESS
3442 Wai'alaie Ave., Suite 1
Honolulu, HI 96816

PHONE
808-735-5756

EMAIL
bicycle@hbl.org

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEAN
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2025 – 10:01AM

**Hawai'i Bicycling League STRONGLY SUPPORTS SB 1669, SD 1,
Relating to Transit Oriented Development**

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

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.

Throughout its 50-year history, HBL has consistently identified that land use and transportation policies have too often favored sprawling suburbs, necessitating more cars and nudging people to drive at higher speeds. As such, serious injuries and traffic deaths remain a pernicious threat on roadways statewide, especially for vulnerable road users.

Moreover, this overreliance on cars comes at a very steep financial cost for individuals, families and businesses. Owning and operating a vehicle can cost upwards of \$10,000/year and, a 2020 Ulupono Initiative estimated that parking cost the developer \$42,000 per space within a structured, multi-level podium building in urban Honolulu.¹ The cost of developing and operating parking is often passed onto consumers in various forms (directly and indirectly), and can exacerbate housing affordability challenges.

By establishing a leadership agency to prioritize, plan, and build community infrastructure and amenities such as parks, public spaces, markets, and other amenities that make communities livable, desirable, the state can chart a new way forward for future generations, to choose lower cost and more sustainable transportation choices.

We urge you to support SB 1669, SD 1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Eduardo Hernandez
Advocacy Director

¹ Ulupono Initiative, "The Costs of Parking in Hawai'i," 2020.
<https://ulupono.com/media/ivcfs2pu/the-cost-of-parking-in-hawaii-report-2020-08.pdf>.