



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

TESTIMONY

SB 426

Making an Appropriation to Install a Second
Access Road to Leeward Community College

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Transportation and
Government Operations

February 9, 2005

by

Mark Silliman
Chancellor, Leeward Community College
University of Hawai'i

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Chair Inouye and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing Leeward Community College to testify on S.B. 426, Making an Appropriation to Install a Second Access Road to Leeward Community College. Leeward Community College supports this bill as it will provide a much needed secondary access to the College. Currently there is only one road that leads to Leeward Community College which is via Waiawa Road that passes over the H-1, H-2 merge. With over 1,500 parking stalls on campus for students, faculty, and staff of Leeward Community College and UH-West O'ahu, this second access road is required to reduce the backlog of cars coming into and going off campus. During peak hours, vehicles can line up as far back as Sam's Club to get onto campus, creating a hazardous traffic situation on Kamehameha Highway. Exiting the campus is also extremely time consuming.

In the event the College would need to evacuate the campus, it would literally take hours to get everyone off campus. This safety issue is raised in the College's Long Range Development Plan citing the need for a second access road to the area. Waiawa Road also supports the College Garden townhomes which is adjacent to the College and many single family residential properties in the surrounding area.

In FY 2001-03, the Legislature passed Act 177 appropriating \$5.250 million in revenue bond authorization through the Department of Transportation. A portion of these funds have been encumbered for planning of this project. Passage of SB 426 would provide the funding necessary to build the much needed second access road to Leeward Community College and its neighboring community.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this measure.