# RES25-262
# Testimony

**MISC. COMM. 535**

*BUDGET (BUD)

***BUDGET (BUD)  Meeting**

Meeting Date: Oct 14, 2025 @ 09:00 AM

Support: 1

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Micah Munekata | mmunekata@ulupono.com | 96813 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Ulupono Initiative | Support | Oct 10, 2025 @ 02:49 PM |

Email: communications@ulupono.com

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON BUDGET
Tuesday, October 14, 2025 — 9:00 A.M.

**Ulupono Initiative supports Resolution 25-262, Relating to the Policy on the Farebox Recovery Ratio.**

Dear Chair Okimoto and Members of the Committee:

My name is Micah Munekata, and I am the Director of Government Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food, renewable energy and clean transportation choices, and better management of freshwater resources.

**Ulupono supports Resolution 25-262**, which repeals the policy on the farebox recovery ratio for the City and County of Honolulu bus system.

Ulupono supports repealing the farebox recovery ratio policy for Honolulu's bus system. Our public transit system provides many important benefits, including reducing traffic congestion, lowering emissions, and offering affordable mobility for both residents and visitors. While the farebox recovery ratio has been useful in the past, maintaining a strict requirement can make it difficult to adjust services during times of economic change or when new transportation options like Skyline are added.

In addition, it is worth noting that a farebox recovery ratio at this level is uncommon among urban systems, where many cities see ratios well below 10 percent, if they use them at all. Moving away from this rigid benchmark will allow Honolulu to focus instead on strategies that encourage ridership growth and improve the overall quality of service, ensuring our transit system continues to meet the needs of the community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata
Director of Government Affairs