# RES25-313
# Testimony

**MISC. COMM. 3**

*INTERNATIONAL & LEGAL AFFAIRS (ILA)

***INTERNATIONAL & LEGAL AFFAIRS (ILA)  Meeting**

Meeting Date: Jan 14, 2026 @ 01:00 PM

Support: 74

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 3

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| lynne matusow | lynnehi@aol.com | 96817 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 8, 2026 @ 09:36 PM |

Testimony:

in full support. i think the city is playing games. they say it is their final offer and the union has not scheduled a vote.

please vote yes.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| kevin holu | kevin.holu@hawaiiteamsters.com | 96819 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Hawaii Teamsters & Allied Workers Local 996 | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 07:34 AM |

Testimony:

Hawaii Teamsters & Allied Workers Local 996 in SUPPORT of the original Res25-313

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Jonathan Reed | tautuareed@yahoo.com | 96731 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 08:18 AM |

Testimony:

Aloha, I support this resolution and feel that OTS should settle with Teamsters Local 996 so that employees of OTS can have assurance that their jobs and future are secure, and that the public, whom OTS serves, will not be inconvenienced or possibly have their only source of transportation taken away.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| SCOT PAIVA | SCOT660@GMAIL.COM | 96789 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 08:26 AM |

Testimony:

ALOHA,

I SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION AND BELIEVE THAT OTS SHOULD SETTLE WITH THE TEAMSTERS SO THEIR EMPLOYEES AND THE PUBLIC CAN BE ASSURED THAT THERE WILL BE NO DISRUPTION IS SERVICE.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Jonathan Makue | jonathan.makue@hawaiiteamsters.com | 96792 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Teamsters Local 996 | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 08:27 AM |
| Testimony: | | |
| I support this bill. | | |

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| jonathan johnson | jonathan.johnson@hawaiiteamsters.com | 96819 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 08:37 AM |
| Testimony: | | |
| My name is Jonathan Johnson and I support 25-313 resolution. | | |

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| sandra chung | sandy.chung@hawaiiteamsters.com | 96782-1206 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 08:38 AM |
| Testimony: | | |
| I support this bill 25-313 resolution. | | |

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Beverly Tusi | beverly.tusi@hawaiiteamsters.com | 96826 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 08:50 AM |
| Testimony: | | |
| I strongly support Bill 25-313 and express my deep disappointment with Oahu Transit Services and TheBus for continuing to drag their feet and low-ball the very workers who keep our island moving. For months, Teamsters Local 996 members have shown up every day without a contract, maintaining service for our community while management stalls negotiations and offers proposals that fail to meet the rising cost of living in Hawai'i. This lack of urgency disrespects frontline transit workers and puts the stability of our public transportation system at risk. Bill 25-313 is a necessary step to push TheBus back to the table in good faith and ensure a fair contract that protects workers and the 130,000 daily riders who depend on reliable transit service. | | |

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Genaro Gualdarama | hale.gualdarama@hawaiiteamsters.com | 96819 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Hawaii Teamsters and Allied Workers Local 996 | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 09:00 AM |

Testimony:

I am in full support of this bill being passed.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Lavaun Lei | kingssley.lei@hawaiiteamsters.com | 96819 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| International Brotherhood of Teamters | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 09:02 AM |

Testimony:

Aloha,

I am in full support of this bill.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Yvette Paiva | kehaup23@gmail.com | 96782 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 09:04 AM |

Testimony:

I strongly support Resolution 25-313 and urge OTS to continue bargaining in good faith to reach an agreement that:

- Ensures fair wages and benefits for workers
- Maintains reliable and safe service for riders
- Prevents the significant community impacts that a strike would cause

A stable, respected, and fairly compensated workforce is the backbone of an effective public transit system. Reaching a mutually acceptable agreement is in the best interest of OTS, its employees, and the entire island community.

Mahalo for your leadership and attention to this important matter.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Genaro Gualdarama | genarogualdarama@gmail.com | 96819 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 09:04 AM |

Testimony:

I am in full support of this bill.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Lavaun Lei | kingsleylei@hotmail.com | 96731 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 09:04 AM |

Testimony:

Aloha all,

I am in personal support of this bill.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| BRAD PADUA | bradpadua@gmail.com | 96786 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 09:05 AM |

Testimony:

I support Teamsters and OTS employees.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Felipe Anguiano | paco.anguiano@hawaiiteamsters.com | 96792 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 09:14 AM |

Testimony:

Aloha,

As an OTS Employee and Hawaii Teamsters Member, I am in full support.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Charlton Lyman | hauoli79@gmail.com | 96782 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | I wish to comment | Jan 13, 2026 @ 09:23 AM |

Testimony:

Aloha I’ve been employed with OTS coming on 13yrs. This last 7yr contract my department Journeyman Trades received same pay scale as HEM. Without no justifiable answer of why we being separated now besides we are short HEM

mechanics. My department we do it all trades work such as plumbing,electrical,mason,carpentry,drywall etc. We also do HEM work such as changing out motors,pumps,gear boxes,in ground lifts,mobile column lifts,platform lifts,cranes,etc. We do diagnostic tests and troubleshooting on various equipment's to see if can be rebuilt or replaced. As you can see we take on 2 different line of work which we should be compensated for. But we're not being greedy we're just asking to be put back on same pay scale as we were in last contract. Mahalo and Ty for the opportunity to express my concerns.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Akua Auwae | choakua@yahoo.com | 96789 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 09:25 AM |

Testimony:

By settling this matter through good-faith negotiation, both parties can avoid unnecessary conflict, operational disruption, and uncertainty. A mutually agreed-upon settlement will promote labor stability, strengthen trust between management and employees, and allow us to focus collectively on productivity, safety, and service excellence

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Bronson Napaepae | bronsonnapaepae@yahoo.com | 96707 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 09:44 AM |

Testimony:

Hi I currently working for OTS for 21 years. I encourage OTS Management to strike a contract with Teamsters. With livable wages and better work conditions. Want to make OTS a prestigious place to work for again. Also like to see OTS get recognized for public transportation like they used too 20years ago. I believe with better work conditions and livable wages more qualified applicants will apply for the bus. Making it better. Let's make public transportation rank #1 again.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Denise Bali | denisebali@hotmail.com | 96706 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 09:53 AM |

Testimony:

Aloha,

Please encourage OTS to settle with Bus employees.  Employees deserve a livable wage in the state of Hawaii. Bus drivers are the heart of the state!  They move of us around ... safely! They work long hours and never know who's getting on the bus.  They deal with EVERYONE from locals, tourist, seniors, students, the mentally ill, drug addicted and houseless. Ask a driver what a day on the bus is like or better yet have OTS management ride with a driver for a day! Any interruption of

service would impact the state deeply.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Tavesi Augafa | tavesi.augafa@hawaiiteamsters.com | 96782 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 10:08 AM |

Testimony:

I support it.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Glenn Billedo | billedo57@yahoo.com | 96817 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 10:14 AM |

Testimony:

Aloha,

I am a part of the 2025 negotiating committee and also an Assistant Business Agent with Local 996.

I don’t want to stir the pot too much at this point being that we are very close to reaching a deal.

There are just a few working condition items as well as WAGES.

It is already known that OTS did NOT ask for their budget for the current fiscal year. With that being said, how could anyone say they were bargaining in good faith stating from the beginning, “We have no room for wage increases. The City isn’t releasing any monies.”

We have sat through hours of caucus and negotiated against ourselves to try and get a deal done.

OTS apparently led us thru 28 sessions, paying their VP’s and attorneys while not being forthcoming.

We at Local 996 appreciate the City Council introducing and, hopefully, passing this resolution so our employees and their families can stay in our Island Home and thrive and not “MOVE TO SAN FRANSISCO”.

Also, a quick insight into Roger Morton’s January 2021 letter to Ms Cordeiro stating Hazard pay isn’t in our contract language.

He is absolutely correct on that statement. But. Please keep in kind that MANDATORY VACCINATIONS WERE NOT IN OUR CONTRACT EITHER.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Glenn Billedo

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Alyssa Griffin | alyssakmgriffin@gmail.com | 96706 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 11:07 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | AM |

Testimony:

Aloha Chair and Councilmembers,

My name is Alyssa Griffin, and I am submitting testimony in support of a fair and timely resolution to the OTS contract negotiations referenced in RES25-313.

Operational and technical staff are essential to the daily functioning of City services. When contracts remain unresolved, it affects not only employees, but also morale, retention, and ultimately the quality and reliability of services provided to the public.

I urge the City and union leadership to prioritize good-faith negotiations that recognize the increasing cost of living in Honolulu, the specialized skills required of OTS employees, and the need for competitive compensation to retain experienced workers.

Resolving this contract promptly and fairly is an investment in stable operations, public safety, and long-term service continuity for our community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony and for your commitment to supporting the workforce that keeps our City running.

Mahalo,

Alyssa Griffin

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Tyler Griffin | tylergriffin2009@gmail.com | 96706 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 11:08 AM |

Testimony:

Aloha Chair and Councilmembers,

My name is Tyler Griffin and I am submitting testimony in support of a fair and timely resolution to the OTS contract negotiations referenced in RES25-313.

Operational and technical staff are essential to the daily functioning of City services. When contracts remain unresolved, it affects not only employees, but also morale, retention, and ultimately the quality and reliability of services provided to the public.

I urge the City and union leadership to prioritize good-faith negotiations that recognize the increasing cost of living in Honolulu, the specialized skills required of OTS employees, and the need for competitive compensation to retain experienced workers.

Resolving this contract promptly and fairly is an investment in stable operations, public safety, and long-term service continuity for our community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony and for your commitment to supporting the workforce that keeps our City running.

Mahalo,

Tyler Griffin

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Randall Moss II | 808freshprince@gmail.com | 96797 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 11:23 AM |

Testimony:

Aloha,

I've been a bus operator going on 11 years with OTS. Proud Teamster local 996 member. And an Oahu Resident born and raised. This resolution is extremely important not only to the community we serve but also to the members employed by OTS.

We want and deserve stable and fair working conditions. And the opportunity to fight to sustain a suitable workplace. This contract is addressing issues that would hopefully not only get drivers back on the seat. But keep them there. Please support this resolution so we can continue to serve our great community and strive to once again become the #1 transit system in America. Mahalo for your support.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Tiana Stringfield | tianastringfield@gmail.com | 96817 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 11:42 AM |

Testimony:

I am in FULL SUPPORT

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Gary Mamiya | hiwakaui@gmail.com | 96792 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Hawaii Teamsters Local 996 | I wish to comment | Jan 13, 2026 @ 11:53 AM |

Testimony:

Aloha,

I am a part of the 2025 negotiating committee and also an Assistant Business Agent with Local 996.

I don't want to stir the pot too much at this point being that we are very close to reaching a deal.

There are just a few working condition items as well as WAGES.

It is already known that OTS did NOT ask for their budget for the current fiscal year. With that being said, how could anyone say they were bargaining in good faith stating from the beginning, “We have no room for wage increases. The City isn’t releasing any monies.”

We have sat through hours of caucus and negotiated against ourselves to try and get a deal done.

OTS apparently led us thru 28 sessions, paying their VP’s and attorneys while not being forthcoming.

We at Local 996 appreciate the City Council introducing and, hopefully, passing this resolution so our employees and their families can stay in our Island Home and thrive and not “MOVE TO SAN FRANSISCO”.

Also, a quick insight into Roger Morton’s January 2021 letter to Ms Cordeiro stating Hazard pay isn’t in our contract language.

He is absolutely correct on that statement. But. Please keep in kind that MANDATORY VACCINATIONS WERE NOT IN OUR CONTRACT EITHER.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Gary Mamiya

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Louis Stowers | juniorstowers@gmail.com | 96797 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 11:56 AM |

Testimony:

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF URGING OAHU TRANSIT SERVICES, INC. TO SETTLE NEGOTIATIONS WITH HAWAII TEAMSTERS AND ALLIED WORKERS LOCAL 996 AND PROVIDE FAIR COMPENSATION FOR A FOUR-YEAR CONTRACT

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Louis J. Stowers, and I am a bus driver employed by Oahu Transit Services, Inc. I am submitting this testimony in strong support of urging OTS to settle negotiations with Hawaii Teamsters and Allied Workers Local 996 and to agree to a fair four-year compensation contract.

As a bus driver, I take pride in the work I do every day. I safely transport our community’s keiki, kupuna, working families, and visitors. I work early mornings, late nights, weekends, and holidays. I navigate traffic, weather, safety concerns, and difficult situations while remaining professional and focused because the people on my bus depend on me.

In addition to my regular schedule, I also volunteer on my days off to work extra shifts to help provide coverage, ensuring routes are not missed and riders can continue to rely on public transportation. Many drivers do the same, stepping up when staffing is short because we care about our community and the service we provide.

Despite being essential workers, the cost of living in Hawai'i continues to rise while contract negotiations remain unresolved. Many drivers are struggling to support their families, pay rent, afford groceries, and keep up with basic expenses. This prolonged uncertainty affects morale, retention, and the ability of OTS to maintain reliable transit service for the public.

A fair four-year contract is not just about wages—it is about respect, stability, and recognizing the value of the work we do. Fair compensation helps retain experienced drivers, improves safety, and ensures the long-term strength of Oahu's public transportation system. When drivers feel valued and supported, the entire community benefits.

We have continued to show up and serve the public with dedication and professionalism, even beyond our scheduled hours. All we are asking for is a contract that reflects the essential nature of our work and the realities of living in Hawai'i.

I respectfully urge Oahu Transit Services, Inc. to negotiate in good faith with Hawaii Teamsters and Allied Workers Local 996 and to settle a fair four-year contract without further delay.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share my testimony and for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
Louis J. Stowers
Bus Driver, Oahu Transit Services, Inc.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Peter Cruz | peterjoe_cruz@yahoo.com | 96782 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 11:58 AM |

Testimony:
I fully support RES25-313. In regards to settling negotiations with Teamsters and Allied Workers Local 996.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Mele-Hio Maikai-Stowers | mele.hio.maikai.stowers@gmail.com | 96797 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 12:09 PM |

Testimony:
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF URGING OAHU TRANSIT SERVICES, INC. TO SETTLE NEGOTIATIONS WITH HAWAII TEAMSTERS AND ALLIED WORKERS LOCAL 996 AND PROVIDE FAIR COMPENSATION FOR A FOUR-YEAR CONTRACT

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Mele-Hio Maikai-Stowers, and I am the wife of Louis J. Stowers, a bus driver employed by Oahu Transit Services, Inc. I am submitting this testimony in strong support of urging OTS to settle negotiations with Hawaii Teamsters and Allied Workers Local 996 and to provide fair compensation through a four-year contract.

I see firsthand the dedication my husband brings to his job. He leaves home early, returns late, works weekends and holidays, and still volunteers to work on his days off to help cover routes when staffing is short. He does this not because he has to, but because he cares deeply about the riders who depend on public transportation and about his fellow drivers.

Like many families in Hawai'i, we are feeling the strain of the rising cost of living. The uncertainty of prolonged contract negotiations adds stress not just for workers, but for their families as well. Transit workers deserve stability, fairness, and compensation that reflects both the essential nature of their work and the sacrifices they make.

A fair four-year contract would provide much-needed security and show respect for the hardworking men and women who keep Oahu moving every day. When drivers are supported and fairly compensated, it strengthens families, improves morale, and ensures reliable service for the entire community.

I respectfully urge Oahu Transit Services, Inc. to negotiate in good faith with Hawaii Teamsters and Allied Workers Local 996 and to reach a fair agreement without further delay. Supporting transit workers means supporting the families and communities that stand behind them.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony and for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
Mele-Hio Maikai-Stowers

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Brandon Hopeau | hopeau52@hotmail.com | 96813 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 12:16 PM |

Testimony:
Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Brandon Wade Hopeau, and I am a current employee of O'ahu Transit Services (OTS). I respectfully submit this testimony in support of fair and livable wages for OTS employees as negotiations continue between O'ahu Transit Services

and the Teamsters Union.

Hawai'i is one of the highest cost-of-living states in the nation. Unfortunately, the wages earned by OTS employees do not currently reflect or keep pace with the rising cost of living here in our home state. Many of us are facing the difficult reality that, without meaningful wage increases, we may be forced to leave Hawai'i simply to survive and support our families.

This is not something we want.

Hawai'i is our home. We were born and raised here. Many of us are Native Hawaiians, deeply rooted in this land and these communities. Our families, culture, and identity are here. We want to continue raising our children here, contributing to our communities, and building a future for the next generation—right here in Hawai'i.

Fair wages would allow us to do more than just survive. They would allow us to:

- Support our families with dignity
- Invest in our children's education, including private schooling if desired
- Support youth athletics, travel, and enrichment opportunities
- Encourage academic success, student-athlete development, and college aspirations
- Create a stronger foundation for future generations to thrive

Public transit workers play a vital role in keeping O'ahu moving. We serve our communities every day, and we take pride in the work that we do. All we are asking for is compensation that reflects the cost of living in Hawai'i and allows us to remain here with our families.

I respectfully urge O'ahu Transit Services to work toward a fair and reasonable agreement that provides employees with a livable and sustainable wage, so we do not have to choose between our livelihoods and our home.

Mahalo for your time, consideration, and for allowing me to submit this testimony. I appreciate the opportunity to be heard.

Mahalo nui loa, and may you all have a blessed day, week, month, and year.

Aloha,

Brandon Wade Hopeau

Employee, O'ahu Transit Services

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Canaan Pa | specialcane576@gmail.com | 96797 |

| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
|---|---|---|
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 12:34 PM |

Testimony:

I support our union because of the care they show for our members. OTS administration specifically the leaders show how they have no respect for us workers who run this public service by making remarks in negotiations towards us and are not willing to be fair with our contract. Thank you teamsters Union.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Ransom Kauwe | ransomkauwe@icloud.com | 96797 |

| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
|---|---|---|
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 12:49 PM |

Testimony:

Aloha Chair and Members of the Council,

My name is Ransom Kauwe, and I submit this testimony in strong support of Resolution 25-313, urging Oahu Transit Services, Inc. (OTS) to settle negotiations with Hawaii Teamsters and Allied Workers Local 996.

Honolulu is ranked as one of the most expensive places to live in the United States, yet TheBus operators and mechanics continue to be paid well below market rates compared to transit workers in other high–cost-of-living cities. As outlined by Teamsters Local 996, even OTS's so-called "Last Best and Final" offer fails to bring workers anywhere near parity with mainland counterparts or to reflect the realities of living and working on Oʻahu.

In addition to inadequate wage proposals, the Union has documented troubling conduct at the bargaining table, including unlawful labor practices that have interfered with good-faith negotiations. This prolonged impasse has placed unnecessary stress on frontline transit workers and threatens the stability of an essential public service relied upon by thousands of residents every day.

TheBus employees are the backbone of Oʻahu's public transportation system. They ensure safety, reliability, and continuity of service under demanding conditions, yet they are being asked to accept an offer that does not reflect their value, dignity, or the cost of living in Hawaiʻi. A fair contract is not only a labor issue—it is a public interest issue.

I strongly urge OTS to return to the bargaining table in good faith and reach a fair and equitable agreement with Teamsters Local 996. Supporting transit workers means supporting dependable service, public safety, and the well-being of our entire community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony and for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Ransom Kauwe

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| ANISSA AKAMINE | ANISSA.AKAMINE@THEBUS.ORG | 96706 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| HAWAII TEAMSTERS OAHU TRANSIT SVCS. INC. | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 12:51 PM |

Testimony:

Wage increase for ALL OTS Inc. employees.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Troy Liu | tliu30521@gmail.com | 96797 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 01:39 PM |

Testimony:

My name is Troy F. LIU For too long OTS has been nickeling and diming the people who make OTS, the workers.. we have fallen far behind the status quo of what the rest of the industry and country has when compared to cost of living. That's what we want fair and appropriateness to that cost of living for us. We move Hawaii and its Local people There is no other scaled to what we do.. we practically live at the Bus and visit our families on the 1 day we actually have off pay us for that. We start when its dark we go home when its dark pay us for that. Take away our days off pay us for that the wages we feel we are worth..Negotiate fair language in black and white not gray areas that leave interpretation that hurts the drivers... This shouldnt be so drawn out if OTS really respected the people who make the company what it is. The number 1 transportation ability in Hawaii pay us for that.. Figure out how to keep people in the seat to help with moral and adequate rest.. we work 8 to 12 plus hours a day for 6 days at a time figure it out so we can restart be alert and function at a safe work place... If they cant do so then pay us what we are worth not what u think we should get...

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Waynette Botelho | Way.botelho92@gmail.com | 96701 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| 996 Teamsters Union | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 03:31 PM |

Testimony:

I support the 996 Teamsters Union to settle negotiations with Oahu Transit Services.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Jr Pascua | bolojr70@yahoo.com | 96817 |

| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
|---|---|---|
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 03:34 PM |

Testimony:

City Bus drivers deserve a pay raise what ever they want

They are front line workers dealing with thousands of people every day thousands from grandparents parents children babies mental ill

CDL drivers are professionals

Cost of living is so expensive in Hawaii why wouldn't you want to take care of city bus drivers

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| XXXI XXXXXXXX | lukithompson@aol.com | 96701 |

| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
|---|---|---|
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 03:50 PM |

Testimony:

As an employee of OTS, I humbly ask that this resolution will expedite a conclusion to the on going contract negotiations. We are hardworking, dependable, and rise to the occasion whether it be an emergency situation, pandemic or any other unforeseen circumstance. We deal daily with traffic situations, unruly/unstable individuals, unrealistic time tables and are still expected to drive with aloha and professionalism. All we ask for is a comparable living wage to afford living here in Hawaii

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Jose Vega | 808jvegs@gmail.com | 96792 |

| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
|---|---|---|
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 04:14 PM |

Testimony:

Subject: Testimony in Support of Fair and Timely Resolution of OTS Contract Negotiations (RES25-313)

Aloha Chair and Councilmembers,

My name is Jose Vega, and I am submitting testimony in support of a fair and timely resolution to the OTS contract negotiations referenced in RES25-313.

Operational and technical staff are essential to the daily functioning of City services. When contracts remain unresolved, it affects not only employees, but also morale, retention, and ultimately the quality and reliability of services provided to the public.

I urge the City and union leadership to prioritize good-faith negotiations that recognize the increasing cost of living in Honolulu, the specialized skills required of OTS employees, and the need for competitive compensation to retain

experienced workers.

Resolving this contract promptly and fairly is an investment in stable operations, public safety, and long-term service continuity for our community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony and for your commitment to supporting the workforce that keeps our City running.

Mahalo,

Jose Vega8084450908

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Lucille Aguilar | awomanstouchdtl4u@gmail.com | 96782 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 04:24 PM |

Testimony:

Aloha

My name is Lucille Aguilar and I am a current employee of OTS. I respectfully submit this testimony in support of fair and livable wages for OTS employees as negotiations continue between Oahu transit services and the teamsters union.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Kevin Phillip | kphillip671@gmail.com | 96822 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 05:03 PM |

Testimony:

I support the urge for Oahu Transit Services to settle negotiations with Teamsters and allied workers local 996. I feel there are enough resources and support on both sides to finalize an agreement that will benefit all involved. Respectfully, any further delays will only continue to cause confusion and fear with the public that use the bus system as their daily form of transportation as well as  lowered moral for myself and fellow workers of Oahu Transit Services. Mahalo.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| ...Laila Rodrigues | Hauulagirl69@gmail.com | 96717 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 05:13 PM |

Testimony:

I support this bill 25-313 resolution.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Chanda Diocares | sunnyboysmom@gmail.com | 96792 |
| Representing:<br>996 Teamsters Union | Position:<br>Support | Submitted:<br>Jan 13, 2026 @ 05:42 PM |
| Testimony:<br>I support the 996 Teamsters Union to settle negotiations with Oahu Transit Services. | | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Name:<br>Davry Paglinawan | Email:<br>dkpaglinawan@gmail.com | Zip:<br>96792 |
| Representing:<br>Self | Position:<br>Support | Submitted:<br>Jan 13, 2026 @ 06:11 PM |

Testimony:

Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Davry Paglinawan, and I am a current employee of Oʻahu Transit Services (OTS). I respectfully submit this testimony in support of fair and livable wages for OTS employees as negotiations continue between Oʻahu Transit Services and the Teamsters Union.

Hawaiʻi is one of the highest cost-of-living states in the nation. Unfortunately, the wages earned by OTS employees do not currently reflect or keep pace with the rising cost of living here in our home state. Many of us are facing the difficult reality that, without meaningful wage increases, we may be forced to leave Hawaiʻi simply to survive and support our families.

This is not something we want.

Hawaiʻi is our home. We were born and raised here. Many of us are Native Hawaiians, deeply rooted in this land and these communities. Our families, culture, and identity are here. We want to continue raising our children here, contributing to our communities, and building a future for the next generation—right here in Hawaiʻi.

Fair wages would allow us to do more than just survive. They would allow us to:

- Support our families with dignity
- Invest in our children's education, including private schooling if desired
- Support youth athletics, travel, and enrichment opportunities
- Encourage academic success, student-athlete development, and college aspirations
- Create a stronger foundation for future generations to thrive

Public transit workers play a vital role in keeping Oʻahu moving. We serve our communities every day, and we take pride in the work that we do. All we are asking for is compensation that reflects the cost of living in Hawaiʻi and allows us to remain

here with our families.

I respectfully urge O‘ahu Transit Services to work toward a fair and reasonable agreement that provides employees with a livable and sustainable wage, so we do not have to choose between our livelihoods and our home.

Mahalo for your time, consideration, and for allowing me to submit this testimony. I appreciate the opportunity to be heard.

Mahalo nui loa, and may you all have a blessed day, week, month, and year.

Aloha,
Davry Paglinawan
Employee, O‘ahu Transit Services

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Cambe James | cambejames07@gmail.com | 96701 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 06:22 PM |
| Testimony: | | |
| I support 996 to settle with OTS | | |

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Lance Labuanan | lancelabuanan@live.com | 96797 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 06:26 PM |
| Testimony: | | |
| I support 996 to settle with OTS | | |

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Bryson Sekigawa | Bryson.Sekigawa22@icloud.com | 96701 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| 996 Teamsters Union | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 06:38 PM |
| Testimony: | | |
| I support the 996 Teamsters Union to settle negotiations with Oahu Transit Services. | | |

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Robert Nakao | checkdisout@hawaii.rr.com | 96707 |
| Representing:<br>996 Teamsters Union | Position:<br>Support | Submitted:<br>Jan 13, 2026 @ 06:40 PM |
| Testimony:<br>I support the 996 Teamsters Union to settle negotiations with Oahu Transit Services. | | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Name:<br>Merle Tafeaga | Email:<br>Merle.tafeaga@thebus.org | Zip:<br>96706 |
| Representing:<br>Self | Position:<br>Support | Submitted:<br>Jan 13, 2026 @ 06:51 PM |

Testimony:

Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Merle Tafeaga, and I am a current employee of O'ahu Transit Services (OTS). I respectfully submit this testimony in support of fair and livable wages for OTS employees as negotiations continue between O'ahu Transit Services and the Teamsters Union.

Hawai'i is one of the highest cost-of-living states in the nation. Unfortunately, the wages earned by OTS employees do not currently reflect or keep pace with the rising cost of living here in our home state. Many of us are facing the difficult reality that, without meaningful wage increases, we may be forced to leave Hawai'i simply to survive and support our families.

This is not something we want.

Hawai'i is our home. We were born and raised here. Many of us are Native Hawaiians, deeply rooted in this land and these communities. Our families, culture, and identity are here. We want to continue raising our children here, contributing to our communities, and building a future for the next generation—right here in Hawai'i.

Fair wages would allow us to do more than just survive. They would allow us to:

- Support our families with dignity
- Invest in our children's education, including private schooling if desired
- Support youth athletics, travel, and enrichment opportunities
- Encourage academic success, student-athlete development, and college aspirations
- Create a stronger foundation for future generations to thrive

Public transit workers play a vital role in keeping O'ahu moving. We serve our communities every day, and we take pride in the work that we do. All we are asking for is compensation that reflects the cost of living in Hawai'i and allows us to remain

here with our families.

I respectfully urge O‘ahu Transit Services to work toward a fair and reasonable agreement that provides employees with a livable and sustainable wage, so we do not have to choose between our livelihoods and our home.

Mahalo for your time, consideration, and for allowing me to submit this testimony. I appreciate the opportunity to be heard.

Mahalo nui loa, and may you all have a blessed day, week, month, and year.

Aloha,

Merle Tafeaga
Employee, O‘ahu Transit Services

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Ruth Botelho | rbotelho4@hawaii.rr.com | 96707 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| 996 Teamsters Union | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 07:07 PM |

Testimony:
I support the 996 Teamsters Union to settle negotiations with Oahu Transit Services.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Ethan Solomon | erks808@yahoo.com | 96707 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 07:27 PM |

Testimony:
I support all three of the unions requests. I fully side with the union.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Robin Lo | cheeoie@hotmail.com | 96701 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | I wish to comment | Jan 13, 2026 @ 07:32 PM |

Testimony:
I would like to encourage OTS to come back to the bargaining table. The bus service that OTS provides is unmatched. They

have added more routes to get passengers their destinations timely. My family would be at risk of losing income if the bus drivers are  forced to strike. The extended hours on the rail has allowed more flexibility when it comes to having a flexible schedule and caring for family members. The bus drivers provide a service that my family relies on. Please have OTS resume negotiations with the Teamsters and give the bus operators a wage that can allow them to remain in Hawaii and achieve the dream of hone ownership

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Delton Kekahuna | delton.kekahuna@gmail.com | 96792 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 08:08 PM |

Testimony:

Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Delton Kekahuna, and I am submitting this testimony in support of a fair and timely resolution to the OTS contract negotiations referenced in RES25-313.

Operational and technical staff are essential to the daily function of City Services. When contracts are left unresolved, it impacts not just the employees, but also the overall morale, retention rates, and ultimately the quality and dependability of the services offered to the public.

I strongly encourage the City and union leadership to prioritize good-faith negotiations that acknowledge the rising cost of living in Honolulu, the unique skills demanded of OTS employees, and the necessity for competitive pay to keep experienced workers. Addressing this contract swiftly and equitably is a commitment to stable operations, public safety, and the ongoing provision of services for our community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to present my testimony and for your dedication to supporting the workforce that sustains our city.

Mahalo nui,

Delton Kekahuna

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Laurell Almeida | almeidakukahiko@gmail.com | 96817 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 08:11 PM |

Testimony:

I am in strong support for the Teamsters push to get better wages for the employees of OTS, We have worked through a pandemic lost many of our work Ohana and NO ONE was compensated for having to work in these conditions daily during this very scary time. What is even more scary is the rising costs in Hawaii due to tarrifs the rail etc... We are the beginning and the end of the rail. WE MAKE THIS ISLAND MOVE.. your consideration to push this bill forward is GREATLY needed.

Mahalo

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Sharon Freitas Freitas | ronpua37@yahoo.com | 96819 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 08:17 PM |

Testimony:

Aloha My name is Sharon Pualani Freitas, I am in strong support to the Teamers 996 and all employees of OTS especially the BUS DRIVERS, who on a daily basis serve our community island wide.

I drove the city bus for almost 5 years. They deserve the paid and I am requesting that the every city councilmember who sits in every seat to HONOR OUR EMPLOYEES at Oahu Transit Service.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Seailia Faumuina | sesiliafaumuina93@gmail.com | 96792 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 08:35 PM |

Testimony:

My name is Sesilia , and I am submitting a testimony in support of a fair and timely resolution to the OTS contract negotiations referenced in RES25-313.

Operational and technical staff are essential to the daily functioning of City services. When contracts remain unresolved, it affects not only employees, but also morale, retention, and ultimately the quality and reliability of services provided to the public.

I urge the City and union leadership to prioritize good-faith negotiations that recognize the increasing cost of living in Honolulu, the specialized skills required of OTS employees, and the need for competitive compensation to retain experienced workers.

Resolving this contract promptly and fairly is an investment in stable operations, public safety, and long-term service continuity for our community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony and for your commitment to supporting the workforce that keeps our City running.

Mahalo,

Sesilia

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Jeremy Kebrdle Jeremy Kebrdle | ohguy24@yahoo.com | 96789 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| The Bus (OTS) | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 08:42 PM |

Testimony:

I am a city bus driver on Oahu for The Bus. We as operators put our hearts and souls into our jobs everyday to show true Aloha to our locals and guests alike. We, especially us more junior operators, miss out every year on family gatherings and events and pretty much every major holiday to keep the island moving for locals and visitors. We have a great job with The Bus but we also sacrifice a lot for the company. Almost every single week we are getting one of our days off canceled and having to report to work or face disciplinary actions if we don't comply. We sacrifice our well being and physical and mental health to ensure the island locals and all our patrons are getting where they need to go daily. We are helping our kapuna to get to doctors appointments, our keiki to get to school and people to their jobs daily. We are essential workers and we feel underappreciated and disrespected by our OTS higher management team. They seem to not understand that we, the operators, are the face and the heart and soul of the company, without us the company wouldn't operate. We are asking to be respected and given a fair wage that is comparable to other city areas with extreme cost of living prices for everyday things and housing. I work almost 6 days a week every week for the company and also on my other day off work a job for a local tour company taking guests on hiking tours across the island. I almost never have a day off and work so hard to keep everyone else happy. I shouldn't have to be working two jobs and doing side gigs such as Uber and Lyft just to be able to live and pay my mortgage and bills every month. A fair contract that pays us a fair livable wage is extremely necessary so that we can keep being the ambassadors of Aloha that we are. I love this job but a little more appreciation and consideration for all our sacrifices with a new contract would really show that OTS cares about its operators. Everyday we face adversity and challenges on the road and with the patrons, we get yelled at honked at sometimes physically assaulted yet we continue to show up and keep smiles on our faces in respect for the patrons and the company. I ask that you consider all that we do for OTS and give us a fair contract that we can be proud of and feel appreciated for with all our efforts. Fair is Fair and there isn't a more deserving bunch of people than us operators.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Shalei Naumu | shaleireednaumu@gmail.com | 96707 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 08:50 PM |

Testimony:

Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Shalei Naumu, and I am a current employee of O‘ahu Transit Services (OTS). I respectfully submit this

testimony in support of fair and livable wages for OTS employees as negotiations continue between O‘ahu Transit Services and the Teamsters Union.

Hawai‘i is one of the highest cost-of-living states in the nation. Unfortunately, the wages earned by OTS employees do not currently reflect or keep pace with the rising cost of living here in our home state. Many of us are facing the difficult reality that, without meaningful wage increases, we may be forced to leave Hawai‘i simply to survive and support our families.

This is not something we want.

Hawai‘i is our home. We were born and raised here. Many of us are Native Hawaiians, deeply rooted in this land and these communities. Our families, culture, and identity are here. We want to continue raising our children here, contributing to our communities, and building a future for the next generation—right here in Hawai‘i.

Fair wages would allow us to do more than just survive. They would allow us to:

- Support our families with dignity
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- Support youth athletics, travel, and enrichment opportunities
- Encourage academic success, student-athlete development, and college aspirations
- Create a stronger foundation for future generations to thrive

Public transit workers play a vital role in keeping O‘ahu moving. We serve our communities every day, and we take pride in the work that we do. All we are asking for is compensation that reflects the cost of living in Hawai‘i and allows us to remain here with our families.

I respectfully urge O‘ahu Transit Services to work toward a fair and reasonable agreement that provides employees with a livable and sustainable wage, so we do not have to choose between our livelihoods and our home.

Mahalo for your time, consideration, and for allowing me to submit this testimony. I appreciate the opportunity to be heard.

Mahalo nui loa, and may you all have a blessed day, week, month, and year.

Aloha,

Shalei Naumu
Employee, O‘ahu Transit Services

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Chase Naumu | chasekjiminez@gmail.com | 96707 |

| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 09:40 PM |

Testimony:

Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Chase Kekoa Naumu, and I am a current employee of O‘ahu Transit Services (OTS). I respectfully submit this testimony in support of fair and livable wages for OTS employees as negotiations continue between O‘ahu Transit Services and the Teamsters Union.

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I respectfully urge O‘ahu Transit Services to work toward a fair and reasonable agreement that provides employees with a livable and sustainable wage, so we do not have to choose between our livelihoods and our home.

Mahalo for your time, consideration, and for allowing me to submit this testimony. I appreciate the opportunity to be heard.

Mahalo nui loa, and may you all have a blessed day, week, month, and year.

Aloha,

Chase Kekoa Naumu

Employee, O‘ahu Transit Services

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Travis Nishida | travisnish@yahoo.com | 96701 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 10:01 PM |

Testimony:

Aloha chair and members of the council,

I support the resolution 25-313 because it addresses an issue that’s been ignored for too long. Appreciate the sponsors pushing this forward.

Travis

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Harry Kaikana | manaboi10@gmail.com | 96792 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Local teamsters 996 | Support | Jan 13, 2026 @ 10:05 PM |

Testimony:

Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Harry Kaikana, and I am a current employee of O‘ahu Transit Services (OTS). I respectfully submit this testimony in support of fair and livable wages for OTS employees as negotiations continue between O‘ahu Transit Services and the Teamsters Union.

Hawai‘i is one of the highest cost-of-living states in the nation. Unfortunately, the wages earned by OTS employees do not currently reflect or keep pace with the rising cost of living here in our home state. Many of us are facing the difficult reality that, without meaningful wage increases, we may be forced to leave Hawai‘i simply to survive and support our families.

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communities. Our families, culture, and identity are here. We want to continue raising our children here, contributing to our communities, and building a future for the next generation—right here in Hawai'i.

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Public transit workers play a vital role in keeping O'ahu moving. We serve our communities every day, and we take pride in the work that we do. All we are asking for is compensation that reflects the cost of living in Hawai'i and allows us to remain here with our families.

I respectfully urge O'ahu Transit Services to work toward a fair and reasonable agreement that provides employees with a livable and sustainable wage, so we do not have to choose between our livelihoods and our home.

Mahalo for your time, consideration, and for allowing me to submit this testimony. I appreciate the opportunity to be heard.

Mahalo nui loa, and may you all have a blessed day, week, month, and year.

Aloha,

Harry Kaikana
Employee, O'ahu Transit Services

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Justin Respicio | thirty8kay@gmail.com | 96701 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| OTS | Support | Jan 14, 2026 @ 02:52 AM |
| Testimony: | | |
| I support fair and livable wages | | |

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Jeffrey Masatsugu | jmasatsugu@dc50.org | 96826 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, District Council 50 | Support | Jan 14, 2026 @ 06:58 AM |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Name:<br>Lemuel Ababa | Email:<br>lecourt1227@gmail.com | Zip:<br>96797 |
| Representing:<br>Self | Position:<br>Support | Submitted:<br>Jan 14, 2026 @ 07:09 AM |
| Testimony:<br>I agree thank you | | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Name:<br>Bennie Ann Keliikuli | Email:<br>bennieannk@gmail.com | Zip:<br>96782 |
| Representing:<br>Self | Position:<br>Support | Submitted:<br>Jan 14, 2026 @ 07:12 AM |
| Testimony:<br>I support | | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Name:<br>John Barbasa | Email:<br>john.vincent2820@gmail.com | Zip:<br>96706 |
| Representing:<br>Self | Position:<br>Support | Submitted:<br>Jan 14, 2026 @ 07:12 AM |
| Testimony:<br>I agree! Give us what we deserve! | | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Name:<br>Blake Gushikuma | Email:<br>blake.gushikuma@yahoo.com | Zip:<br>96797 |
| Representing:<br>Self | Position:<br>Support | Submitted:<br>Jan 14, 2026 @ 07:15 AM |
| Testimony:<br>I support teamsters | | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Name:<br>Reggie Mamuad | Email:<br>que_037@yahoo.com | Zip:<br>96782 |
| Representing:<br>Self | Position:<br>Support | Submitted:<br>Jan 14, 2026 @ 07:16 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | AM |
| Testimony:<br>I’m an employee of The Bus .O.T.S. I support this  Bill. | | |
| Name:<br>Shane Tanioka | Email:<br>shanetanioka90@gmail.com | Zip:<br>96744 |
| Representing:<br>Self | Position:<br>Support | Submitted:<br>Jan 14, 2026 @ 07:39 AM |
| Testimony:<br>I strongly support this resolution. | | |
| Name:<br>Rachel Heu | Email:<br>Rachel.heu@hawaiiteamsters.com | Zip:<br>96819 |
| Representing:<br>Self | Position:<br>Support | Submitted:<br>Jan 14, 2026 @ 08:09 AM |
| Testimony:<br>I support Resolution 25-313!!! | | |
| Name:<br>Charles Ramiscal | Email:<br>charlesmramiscal@gmail.com | Zip:<br>96734 |
| Representing:<br>Self | Position:<br>Support | Submitted:<br>Jan 14, 2026 @ 08:11 AM |
| Testimony:<br>Aloha mai kākou,<br><br>My name is Charles Ramiscal, and I am a current employee of O‘ahu Transit Services (OTS). I respectfully submit this testimony in support of fair and livable wages for OTS employees as negotiations continue between O‘ahu Transit Services and the Teamsters Union.<br><br>Hawai‘i is one of the highest cost-of-living states in the nation. Unfortunately, the wages earned by OTS employees do not currently reflect or keep pace with the rising cost of living here in our home state. Many of us are facing the difficult reality that, without meaningful wage increases, we may be forced to leave Hawai‘i simply to survive and support our families.<br><br>This is not something we want. | | |

Hawai‘i is our home. We were born and raised here. Many of us are Native Hawaiians, deeply rooted in this land and these communities. Our families, culture, and identity are here. We want to continue raising our children here, contributing to our communities, and building a future for the next generation—right here in Hawai‘i.

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I respectfully urge O‘ahu Transit Services to work toward a fair and reasonable agreement that provides employees with a livable and sustainable wage, so we do not have to choose between our livelihoods and our home.

Mahalo for your time, consideration, and for allowing me to submit this testimony. I appreciate the opportunity to be heard.

Mahalo nui loa, and may you all have a blessed day, week, month, and year.

Aloha,

Charles Ramiscal
Employee, O‘ahu Transit Services

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Name:<br>Ana Tuiasosopo | Email:<br>atuiasosopo@oe3.org | Zip:<br>96707 |
| Representing:<br>Operating Engineers Local 3 | Position:<br>Support | Submitted:<br>Jan 14, 2026 @ 08:12 AM |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Name:<br>Chad Ammasi | Email:<br>c.amm_ace@yahoo.com | Zip:<br>96815 |
| Representing:<br>Self | Position:<br>Support | Submitted:<br>Jan 14, 2026 @ 08:50 AM |

Testimony:

Ive bin driving for the city bus for 10 years and with the cost of living rising along with everything else I believe the contract which teamsters is negotiating for is very reasonable, I support and stand alongside my union and hope this situation can be resolved.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Alroy Paiva | apaiva4687@gmail.com | 96789 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 14, 2026 @ 09:27 AM |

Testimony:

I support fully for negotiations to continue and give OTS bus drivers the contract they deserve!! For all they sacrifice they deserve the proper pay raise and pension.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Joelle Hussey | joelle.hussey@hawaiiteamsters.com | 96819 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Self | Support | Jan 14, 2026 @ 10:49 AM |

Testimony:

I support RES25-313.  A community service system like TheBus, that is very highly dependent on to make everyday life possible, for the community to thrive and keep moving should never be taken for granted.  The rail was created to work hand and hand, with TheBus, for without TheBus, the rail could not exist.  The employees of Oahu Transit Services (OTS) took on the Information and call center, the lost and found, the bus bridge and new feeder routes to make the rail not only possible but a success.  The employees of OTS have been standing in the gap to make the City and County of Honolulu look like the Aloha Capital of the world and now is the time we stand behind them and what is fair and right, OTS Management needs to get back to real bargaining, which is why I humbly ask that you support this resolution.

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Anissa Akamine | anissa.akamine@thebus.org | 96706 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |
| Hawai'i Teamsters OTS INC. | Support | Jan 14, 2026 @ 11:30 AM |

Testimony:

Hawai'i teamsters member with OTS INC. resolution for our new contract for increase of wages

| Name: | Email: | Zip: |
|---|---|---|
| Holohua Kalahiki | holohua.kalahiki@thebus.org | 96792 |
| Representing: | Position: | Submitted: |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Self | Support | Jan 14, 2026 @ 11:35 AM |
| Testimony:<br>I feel as front line workers for public transportation we deserve the higher wages as our counterparts up in the States. Oahu wouldn't be able to properly operate without TheBus and we've seen this numerous times in the past. Please pay us what we deserve. | | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Name:<br>Byron Young | Email:<br>byoung@thebus.org | Zip:<br>96701 |
| Representing:<br>Self | Position:<br>Support | Submitted:<br>Jan 14, 2026 @ 12:39 PM |
| Testimony:<br>I agree for us to receive better pay | | |

International Union of Painters and Allied Trades
District Council 50

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GLAZIERS, ARCHITECTURAL METAL AND GLASSWORKERS
808.946.3329

CARPET, LINOLEUM AND SOFT TILE
808.942.3988

DRYWALL TAPERS, FINISHERS
808.946.6621

January 14, 2026

The Honorable Scott Nishimoto, Chair
And Committee Members
Committee on International & Legal Affairs
530 South King Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Resolution 25-313 - Urging the Settlement of Negotiations Between Hawaii Teamsters And Allied Workers Local 996 and Oahu Transit Services

Dear Chair Nishimoto and Committee Members:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **support** of Resolution 25-313.

The International Union of Painters and Allied trades, District Council 50, is an organization that consists of five (5) local unions: the Painters, Local 1971; the Glaziers Architectural and Glass Metal Workers, Local 1889; the Carpet Linoleum and Soft Tile, Local 1926; the Drywall, Tapers Finishers, Local 1944; and the Pearl Harbor Metal Trades Specialty Workers, Local 1941 – in all, approximately two thousand (2000) members statewide.

The members of the Hawaii Teamsters and Allied Workers Union Local 996 have been working without a contract since June of last year. The impasse between Oahu Transit Services and Local 996 risks disruption to public transportation and harm to the members of Local 996. In support of our brothers and sisters in Local 996, we urge your help in resolving this matter by passing Resolution 25-313.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Masatsugu
Director of Government Affairs
International Union of Painters and Allied Trades
District Council 50

OPERATING ENGINEERS
LOCAL 3
N. CALIFORNIA • N. NEVADA • HAWAII • UTAH
AFL-CIO
DISTRICT 17
2181 LAUWILIWILI STREET
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January 13, 2026

Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Chair
Honorable Andria Tupola, Vice Chair
Members of the Honolulu City Council Committee on International & Legal Affairs

**RE: RESOLUTION 25-313: URGING OAHU TRANSIT SERVICES, INC. TO SETTLE NEGOTIATIONS WITH HAWAII TEAMSTERS AND ALLIED WORKERS LOCAL 996.**

Aloha Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Tupola, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Ana Tuiasosopo. I am the District Representative and Trustee for Operating Engineers Local 3. We are the largest Construction Trades Local in the United States. I and the members of Operating Engineers Local 3 **strongly support Resolution 25-313 urging Oahu Transit Services, Inc. to settle negotiations with Hawaii Teamsters and Allied Workers local 996.**

Hawai‘i is one of the highest cost-of-living states in the nation. Unfortunately, the wages earned by OTS employees do not currently reflect or keep pace with the rising cost of living here in our home state. Many of us are facing the difficult reality that, without meaningful wage increases, we may be forced to leave Hawai‘i simply to survive and support our families.

Public transit workers play a vital role in keeping O‘ahu moving. They serve our communities every day, and they take pride in the work that they do. We support public transit workers in asking for compensation that reflects the cost of living in Hawai‘i and allows them to remain here with our families.

Mahalo,

Ana Tuiasosopo
Hawaii District Representative, Trustee
Hawaii Operating Engineers Local 3