

MAR 15 2006

S.R. NO. 48

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO EXPEDITE THE COMPLETION OF THE LAHAINA BYPASS PROJECT AS A TOP PRIORITY AND, IN COOPERATION WITH THE COUNTY OF MAUI AND STAKEHOLDERS, DEVELOP STRATEGIES TO REDUCE MOTOR VEHICLE USE INTO AND OUT OF LAHAINA ON THE ISLAND OF MAUI.

1 WHEREAS, Lahaina is situated in West Maui and is a
2 significant economic engine contributing considerable amounts of
3 general excise tax and transient accommodations tax revenues,
4 stemming from tourism activity, to the economy of the State; and
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6 WHEREAS, the distance from central Maui to Lahaina is only
7 twenty-four miles, yet the trip by motor vehicle between the two
8 points easily takes more than one hour; and
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10 WHEREAS, during the whale watching season or during other
11 peak visitor periods, that trip takes considerably longer; and
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13 WHEREAS, the only road into and out of Lahaina is a two-
14 lane, undivided state highway that is being eroded into the
15 ocean in several places; and
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17 WHEREAS, after more than thirty years, the Department of
18 Transportation has yet to begin construction on the long-
19 promised Lahaina Bypass--a nine-mile, four-lane project proposed
20 to be constructed mauka of Honoapiilani Highway from the
21 Launiupoko area to Honokowai; and
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23 WHEREAS, according to the Department of Transportation's
24 current estimates, phase one of the four-phase Lahaina Bypass
25 project, the Lahaina Mini-Bypass, may be done by the second
26 quarter of 2009; and
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28 WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation has also stated
29 that it will take five years to complete an environmental impact
30 statement on the additional two lanes from Maalaea around the
31 Pali to Lahaina; and
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1 WHEREAS, in addition to ensuring a supply-side solution by
2 expediting the completion of the Lahaina Bypass, it is
3 imperative that a complementary demand-side solution be crafted
4 by developing strategies to reduce motor vehicle usage,
5 including reducing the use of visitor rental cars and
6 encouraging residential commuting, on the road into and out of
7 Lahaina; now, therefore,

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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third
10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006,
11 that the Department of Transportation is requested to expedite
12 the construction of the Lahaina Bypass project as a top
13 priority, and to work with developers of housing projects in the
14 vicinity of Honoapiilani Highway to assist with the project
15 financially, to provide dedicated land easements, design, or
16 other services, as well as utilize segments of former cane haul
17 roads that could be resurfaced as a high occupancy vehicle lane
18 into Lahaina during morning and afternoon peak hours; and

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of
21 Transportation is requested, in cooperation with the county of
22 Maui and stakeholders, to develop strategies to reduce motor
23 vehicle use into and out of Lahaina on the island of Maui; and

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of
26 Transportation is requested to submit to the Legislature:

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- 28 (1) A detailed implementation timeline for the expedited
29 construction and completion of the Lahaina Bypass
30 project, no later than October 1, 2006;
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32 (2) A completed plan containing strategies to reduce motor
33 vehicle use into and out of Lahaina, no later than
34 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular
35 Session of 2007; and
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37 (3) Monthly progress reports on the status of the Lahaina
38 Bypass project and the motor vehicle use reduction
39 plan, beginning on July 1, 2006; and
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