
HOUSE RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE ORIGINAL LIGHT RAIL ALIGNMENT PLAN FOR A ROUTE
FROM THE HONOLULU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TO WAIKIKI AND THE
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA.

1 WHEREAS, the island of Oahu has demonstrated a need for an
2 alternative transportation system of light rail to combat the
3 ever-growing gridlock; and
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5 WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu Department of
6 Transportation Services has identified that the optimal light
7 rail route should serve the greatest areas of congestion on the
8 island of Oahu; and
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10 WHEREAS, the locally preferred alternative total network
11 route structure identifies a system that serves the fastest
12 growing area of Kapolei and the Honolulu International Airport
13 as well as the University of Hawaii; and
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15 WHEREAS, due to the recent action of the Honolulu City
16 Council the new alignment will mean that the initial minimal
17 operating segment of the rail line will not be going to the
18 Honolulu International Airport; and
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20 WHEREAS, the airport represents a larger business,
21 employment, and travel center that is subject to commuting
22 demand for a larger period of time throughout the day than a
23 residential area; and
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25 WHEREAS, the proposed alignment away from the airport will
26 hurt neighbor islanders who would use the rail to get to hotel
27 rooms in Waikiki, as well as the major shopping complex at Ala
28 Moana; and
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30 WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu would have a
31 higher demonstration of cost to benefit per passenger than a
32 Salt Lake alignment initial operating segment and thereby
33 improve the opportunity to obtain Federal Transit Authority



1 funding and avoid the possibility of loss of federal funding for
 2 the light rail project that would force the taxpayers and the
 3 State of Hawaii to make up the loss through higher taxes; and
 4

5 WHEREAS, postponing the servicing of the Honolulu
 6 International Airport will result in a need for billions of
 7 dollars of additional taxpayer funding for the rail project; and
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9 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii is being forced to pay for the
 10 collection of the additional excise tax for the rail system;
 11 now, therefore,
 12

13 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 14 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
 15 Session of 2007, that the Honolulu City Council is urged to
 16 reconsider the choice of the initial minimum operating segment
 17 by voting to realign the proposed light rail system to service
 18 the Honolulu International Airport; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 21 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Mayor of the City
 22 and County of Honolulu, the Honolulu City Council, and Hawaii's
 23 congressional delegation.
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OFFERED BY:

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