

FEB 06 2007

S.R. NO. 12

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES OF THE CITY AND
COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO COOPERATE AND COORDINATE EFFORTS TO
HARMONIZE PEDESTRIAN WALK SIGNAL LIGHTS WITH THE
PEDESTRIAN'S RIGHT OF WAY IN CROSSWALK LAW.

1 WHEREAS, in the first two weeks in 2007, there have been
2 four fatal pedestrian accidents, some in crosswalks, in
3 Honolulu, three of which involved senior citizens; and
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5 WHEREAS, Act 73, Session Laws of Hawaii 2005 (Act 73),
6 enacted a revision to the law regarding pedestrians' right of
7 way in crosswalks; and
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9 WHEREAS, Act 73 requires the driver of a vehicle to stop
10 and yield the right of way to a pedestrian crossing the roadway
11 within a crosswalk when the pedestrian is upon the half of the
12 roadway upon which the vehicle is traveling, or the pedestrian
13 is approaching so closely from the opposite half of the roadway
14 as to be in danger; and
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16 WHEREAS, elderly citizens generally need more time to
17 complete crossing the street; and
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19 WHEREAS, in one of the four pedestrian fatalities in
20 Honolulu, it was reported that many people in the neighborhood
21 where the accident occurred, North King Street, speculate that
22 the woman did not have enough time to get across in the clearly
23 marked crosswalk because the light turned green too fast; and
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25 WHEREAS, pedestrian signal light indicators and traffic
26 signal lights should be timed to allow adequate time for
27 pedestrians to complete a crossing in a crosswalk; and
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29 WHEREAS, one of the objectives for pedestrian safety
30 recommended in 2004 by the American Association of State Highway
31 and Transportation Officials (in cooperation with the Federal
32 Highway Administration) is to reduce pedestrian exposure to



vehicular traffic by upgrading traffic and pedestrian signals;
and

WHEREAS, some roadways and streets are under the jurisdiction of the State and others are under the jurisdiction of the City and County of Honolulu; and

WHEREAS, the State and the City and County of Honolulu need to cooperate and coordinate the timing of traffic signals, as well as the timing of pedestrian walk signals in order to enhance pedestrian safety; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, that the State Department of Transportation and the Department of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu cooperate and coordinate efforts to harmonize pedestrian walk signal lights and traffic stop lights with pedestrian's right of way in the crosswalk law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pedestrian walk signal lights and traffic stop lights allow sufficient time for all pedestrians, particularly the elderly, to complete their crossing in a crosswalk; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to Director of Transportation and the Director of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu.

OFFERED BY: 



