

JAN 18 2007

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO RIDESHARING.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that senior citizens are  
2 most in need of ordinary daily transportation. Currently,  
3 public transportation is limited to the public bus or the  
4 handi-van service. Yet, many seniors may prefer not to ride the  
5 bus or may not otherwise qualify for the handi-van. It is this  
6 gap group of the population who would benefit from a vanpool  
7 type arrangement with volunteer drivers. Such a program would  
8 be patterned after the vanpool arrangement for commute-to-work.  
9 For example, a senior citizen could utilize a vanpool for  
10 transportation to locations within the community, including food  
11 establishments, adult day care, shopping centers, markets, and  
12 recreational centers.

13           The purpose of this Act is to create a senior vanpool  
14 Hawaii program as a two-year pilot project.

15           SECTION 2. Chapter 279G, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
16 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
17 and to read as follows:



1        "§279G- Senior vanpool Hawaii. (a) There is created a  
2 senior vanpool Hawaii program to provide a ridesharing  
3 arrangement for persons age sixty-five and older, without regard  
4 to the senior's physical or mental disability, possession of a  
5 driver's license, or having other persons to assist the senior  
6 in transportation. Transportation shall be limited to locations  
7 within the community of the senior, including but not limited  
8 to, food establishments, adult day care, shopping centers,  
9 markets, and recreational centers.

10        (b) Drivers for the senior vanpool Hawaii program shall be  
11 volunteers and shall possess a valid driver's license issued  
12 under chapter 286.

13        (c) The senior vanpool Hawaii program may collect fees  
14 from seniors in the program; provided that the fees shall not  
15 exceed the fees charged to other riders using a vanpool  
16 arrangement.

17        (d) An entity, as defined in section 279G-2, may contract  
18 for the provision of passenger vans or sport utility vehicles,  
19 or other appropriate vehicles, for senior commuters in the  
20 senior vanpool Hawaii program."

21        SECTION 3. Section 279G-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
22 amended to read as follows:



- 1 " [†] §279G-3 [†] Findings. The legislature finds:
- 2 (1) Public and private expenditures will be reduced by
- 3 increases in ridesharing, particularly in maintenance
- 4 and construction costs for highways[-];
- 5 (2) Increased energy consumption, air pollution, traffic
- 6 congestion, and motor vehicle parking constitute a
- 7 serious problem in the State, particularly in urban
- 8 areas, and ridesharing is a cost-effective alternative
- 9 approach for solving these problems[-];
- 10 (3) The increased use of ridesharing will contribute to
- 11 conservation of fuel, improvement of air quality, and
- 12 more effective use of existing streets, highways, and
- 13 parking facilities[-];
- 14 (4) Ridesharing constitutes one of the most cost-effective
- 15 and energy-efficient means of transportation[-];
- 16 (5) Many employees work in and commute to the downtown
- 17 area of Honolulu where the problems associated with
- 18 traffic congestion, parking, energy consumption, and
- 19 air pollution are greatest[-];
- 20 (6) Senior citizens are in need of ordinary daily
- 21 transportation that is ideally suited for a
- 22 ridesharing arrangement; and



1        [~~6~~] (7)    It is in the public interest and a public purpose  
2                    for private industry, cities, counties, and the State  
3                    to encourage people to use alternatives to single  
4                    occupant motor vehicles, such as ridesharing."

5            SECTION 4.    The department of transportation shall report  
6 to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the  
7 convening of the 2008 regular session and 2009 regular session  
8 on the progress of implementation and current status of the  
9 senior vanpool Hawaii program, including but not limited to,  
10 ridership, costs, and availability of vehicles, vendors, and  
11 volunteers.

12           SECTION 5.    There is appropriated out of the general  
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                    , or so  
14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and  
15 the same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
16 year 2008-2009, for start-up and operational costs of the senior  
17 vanpool Hawaii program.

18           The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
19 of transportation for the purposes of this Act.

20           SECTION 6.    Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
21 and stricken.    New statutory material is underscored.



# S.B. NO. 774

1 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;  
 2 provided that section 4 shall take effect on July 1, 2007; and  
 3 provided further that this Act shall be repealed on June 30,  
 4 2009, and section 279G-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall be  
 5 reenacted in the form in which it read on the day before the  
 6 effective date of this Act.

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INTRODUCED BY: Jim  
 S.S.T.  
 Helen Ger  
 D.J. Doyle  
 Gary L. Hoan

**Report Title:**

Transportation; Ridesharing; Seniors

**Description:**

Creates a pilot senior vanpool Hawaii program to provide vanpools for seniors; makes appropriation.

