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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHER  
AGENCIES, TO ASSIST IN RESOLVING ISSUES RELATED TO HOMELESS  
LIVING IN ABANDONED VEHICLES.

1           WHEREAS, residents and businesses have complained about  
2 homeless individuals living in abandoned vehicles; and

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4           WHEREAS, some of these individuals reportedly have dogs and  
5 cats living with them in these vehicles; and

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7           WHEREAS, this presents a health and safety hazard to  
8 surrounding residents and businesses, particularly when there is  
9 broken glass, vehicle parts, and food scraps littering the area;  
10 and

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12           WHEREAS, there has also been an ongoing problem with  
13 abandoned vehicles on Queen Street in Honolulu, in particular,  
14 an area near 945 Queen Street, and some of these abandoned  
15 vehicles are occupied by homeless individuals; and

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17           WHEREAS, it is unclear whether the City and County of  
18 Honolulu (C&C of Honolulu), State, Hawaii Community Development  
19 Authority (HCDA), or a private entity, has jurisdiction over the  
20 area near 945 Queen Street; and

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22           WHEREAS, HCDA reportedly was to take over control over a  
23 portion of the land in question, which reportedly was previously  
24 owned by a private individual; and

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26           WHEREAS, in addition to the jurisdictional issue, it is  
27 also unclear whether a vehicle is considered "abandoned" when  
28 occupied by homeless individuals; and  
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1           WHEREAS, Chapter 290, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS),  
2 identifies an abandoned vehicle, if not defined by county  
3 ordinance, as one "left unattended for a continuous period of  
4 more than twenty-four hours and it is unlawfully parked on any  
5 public highway or other public property or private lands defined  
6 as a setback, shoulder, easement, or right of way that is  
7 adjacent to or part of a public highway"; and

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9           WHEREAS, the combined issues of jurisdiction and  
10 classification of an "abandoned vehicle" make it unclear as to  
11 how homeless individuals living in vehicles should be dealt with  
12 to keep communities healthy and safe; now, therefore,

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14           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
15 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
16 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that the C&C of Honolulu  
17 Department of Transportation Services, in collaboration with the  
18 C&C of Honolulu Department of Customer Services, state  
19 Department of Transportation, and Hawaii Public Housing  
20 Authority, is requested to determine:

- 21  
22           (1) Who has jurisdiction over the land near 945 Queen  
23 Street; and  
24  
25           (2) Methods to regulate or prohibit homeless living in  
26 abandoned vehicles, including the possibility of  
27 clarifying laws pertaining to "abandoned vehicles"  
28 under Chapter 290, HRS;

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30 and

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32           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that C&C of Honolulu Department of  
33 Transportation Services is requested to submit a report to the  
34 Legislature on its findings and recommendations, including any  
35 suggested legislation, no later than 20 days prior to the  
36 convening of the Regular Session of 2010; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of  
3 Transportation Services, Director of Customer Services, Director  
4 of Transportation, and Executive Director of the Hawaii Public  
5 Housing Authority.  
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7  
8

OFFERED BY: Tom Brown

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