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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES OF THE CITY AND  
COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO IMPLEMENT A PEDESTRIAN FLAG SAFETY  
PROGRAM.

1           WHEREAS, in 2009, sixteen pedestrians were killed by motor  
2 vehicles state-wide; and

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4           WHEREAS, in June 2005, Hudson Falls became the first  
5 community in the State of New York to implement a pedestrian  
6 safety program using flags at crosswalks to make crossing  
7 pedestrians more noticeable to motorists at busy thoroughfares;  
8 and

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10           WHEREAS, under this program, flag-holding containers with  
11 Day-Glo flags are installed on both sides of the street at  
12 crosswalks, and pedestrians wishing to cross the street can  
13 retrieve a flag and wave it to gain motorist's attention when  
14 crossing the street; and

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16           WHEREAS, on January 12, 2010, Hideno Matsumoto, an 81-year  
17 old Nuuanu resident, was fatally injured when she was struck by  
18 a sport utility vehicle while trying to cross the Pali Highway;  
19 and

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21           WHEREAS, the driver of the sport utility vehicle told  
22 police investigators that she simply didn't see Matsumoto; and

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24           WHEREAS, four days later, Virginia Kawauchi, a Kailua  
25 resident, set out approximately thirty homemade flags, each  
26 inscribed with the phrase "In loving memory of Hideno  
27 Matsumoto", on each side of three crosswalks along the Pali  
28 Highway; and

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1 WHEREAS, the flags are held in bins that invite pedestrians  
2 to take a flag across the street for increased safety, to wave  
3 the flag to alert drivers, and to place the flag in the bin  
4 across the street for the next pedestrian; and  
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6 WHEREAS, when asked about her efforts, Kawauchi stated that  
7 she felt if the flags saved one life, then it will have been  
8 worth it; and  
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10 WHEREAS, the pedestrian flag approach, now used in thirteen  
11 states, has greatly increased motorists' compliance in giving  
12 pedestrians the right of way at crosswalks; 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 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Department of  
17 Transportation, with the assistance of the Department of  
18 Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu, is  
19 requested to implement a pedestrian flag safety program; and  
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pedestrian flag safety  
22 program shall be designed to provide flags to pedestrians at  
23 designated crosswalks determined by the Department of  
24 Transportation to be particularly dangerous to crossing  
25 pedestrians; and  
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of  
28 Transportation is requested to report to the Legislature on the  
29 pedestrian flag safety program no later than twenty day prior to  
30 the convening of the Regular Session of 2012; and  
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
33 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of  
34 Transportation and the Director of the Department of  
35 Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu.  
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OFFERED BY: Maui B. Lee

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MAR 04 2010

