
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, AND ANY OTHER AGENCIES OR ENTITIES NECESSARY, TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO RESOLVE ISSUES RELATED TO HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS LIVING IN ABANDONED VEHICLES.

1 WHEREAS, residents and businesses have complained about
2 homeless individuals living in abandoned vehicles in
3 neighborhoods throughout the City and County of Honolulu; and
4

5 WHEREAS, homeless individuals living in abandoned vehicles
6 may present a health and safety hazard to surrounding residents
7 and businesses, particularly when there are pieces of broken
8 glass, vehicle parts, and food scraps littering the area; and
9

10 WHEREAS, residents and businesses have also expressed
11 concerns regarding criminal activity occurring in and around
12 these abandoned vehicles, some of which are homes for homeless
13 individuals; and
14

15 WHEREAS, at times, the abandoned vehicles being used for
16 habitation are parked on roads where jurisdiction is unclear;
17 and
18

19 WHEREAS, Chapter 290, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS),
20 identifies an abandoned vehicle, if not defined by county
21 ordinance, as one "left unattended for a continuous period of
22 more than twenty-four hours and it is unlawfully parked on any
23 public highway or other public property or private lands defined
24 as a setback, shoulder, easement, or right of way that is
25 adjacent to or part of a public highway"; and



1 WHEREAS, Chapter 291C-112, HRS, prohibits individuals from
2 using vehicles for "purposes of human habitation, whether or not
3 the vehicle is designed or equipped for that purpose, while the
4 vehicle is parked on any roadway, street, or highway or other
5 public property between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.";
6 and
7

8 WHEREAS, Chapter 291C-112, HRS, also prohibits such use of
9 vehicles on private property at any time of the day without the
10 authorization of the owner or occupant of the land; and
11

12 WHEREAS, while in many cases these laws effectively address
13 the issue of homeless individuals living in abandoned vehicles,
14 other cases are not as clear and the situation does not lend
15 itself to an expeditious solution; now, therefore,
16

17 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
18 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
19 of 2010, that the Department of Human Services (DHS), in
20 collaboration with the Department of Transportation, Department
21 of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu,
22 and any other necessary agencies or entities, is requested to
23 develop a plan to resolve issues related to homeless individuals
24 living in abandoned vehicles; and
25

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this plan include a means of
27 determining the jurisdiction of roads where the jurisdiction is
28 unclear; and
29

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in developing the plan, DHS
31 also consider situations in which a homeless individual has
32 permission to live in an abandoned vehicle that is not parked in
33 areas prohibited by law; and
34

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DHS is requested to submit a
36 report to the Legislature on its findings and recommendations,
37 including any suggested legislation, no later than 20 days prior
38 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2011; and
39

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
41 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human
42 Services, Director of Transportation, and Director of
43 Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu.

