

MAR 04 2010

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A STUDY TO DETERMINE IF SAVINGS MAY BE ACHIEVED BY  
HAVING THE HIGHWAYS, HARBORS, AND AIRPORTS DIVISIONS SHARE  
CERTAIN COMMON FUNCTIONS.

1           WHEREAS, House Concurrent Resolution No. 76, S.D. 1, 2009,  
2 established a Task Force on Reinventing Government to examine  
3 the current operations and organization of state government and  
4 make recommendations on making state government more efficient;  
5 and

6  
7           WHEREAS, the Task Force on Reinventing Government organized  
8 a Department of Transportation/Transportation Subcommittee  
9 (Subcommittee) to examine issues germane to transportation in  
10 the State; and

11  
12           WHEREAS, among the recommendations of the Subcommittee was  
13 to realize efficiency and savings through shared functions,  
14 rationalization of positions, and increased accountability  
15 within the Department of Transportation (DOT); and

16  
17           WHEREAS, the finding of the Subcommittee, as included in  
18 the Report of the Task Force on Reinventing Government, stated:

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20           "The Subcommittee finds that Hawaii's DOT is  
21 the only state transportation department in the  
22 United States that oversees all three modes of  
23 transportation: airports, harbors, and highways.  
24 In other states, these three modes are usually  
25 administered separately and are often supported  
26 by dedicated, independent authorities. On the  
27 other hand, Hawaii DOT's consolidated structure  
28 could allow for shared functions and economies of  
29 scale; however, that has not happened to date.

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31           The Subcommittee further finds that some  
32 savings may be achieved by having the three  
33 divisions share functions such as planning,  
34 administration, and personnel, rather than  
35 replicating those functions within each division.



1 It has also been observed that there may be an  
2 excess number of staff, particularly in the  
3 lower-ranking, clerical levels. Similarly, it  
4 has been mentioned that the organizational  
5 structure of the DOT has not changed  
6 significantly for decades. Some positions are  
7 obsolete, while newer disciplines, such as  
8 environmental studies and economic analysis, are  
9 not staffed."; and

10  
11 WHEREAS, the Legislature believes that the DOT may be  
12 needlessly duplicating administrative functions common to each  
13 of the three divisions and consolidation of those functions may  
14 be in order, in accordance with the recommendation of the  
15 Subcommittee; now, therefore,

16  
17 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth  
18 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010,  
19 that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to conduct a  
20 study, with the assistance of the Department of Transportation,  
21 to determine if savings may be achieved by having the Highways,  
22 Harbors, and Airports Divisions of the Department of  
23 Transportation share certain functions common to all three  
24 divisions; and

25  
26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include a  
27 determination of whether functions such as planning,  
28 administration, and personnel might be consolidated rather than  
29 replicating those functions within each division; and

30  
31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include, but not be  
32 limited to:

- 33  
34 (1) An assessment of whether there may be an excess number  
35 of staff, particularly at lower-ranking, clerical  
36 levels; and  
37  
38 (2) A determination of whether positions are obsolete, in  
39 view of the fact that newer disciplines such as  
40 environmental studies and economic analysis, are not  
41 currently adequately staffed; and  
42

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference  
44 Bureau report its findings and recommendations, including



1 proposed legislation, if any, to the Legislature no later than  
2 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of  
3 2011; and  
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
6 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Legislative  
7 Reference Bureau, the Director of Transportation, and the Chair  
8 of the Task Force on Reinventing Government.  
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OFFERED BY: Sen. Mercedes K.

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