
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE PERFORMANCE OF A COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS ON THE
REDUCTION OF STREET LIGHTING ON OAHU AND AN EXAMINATION OF
THE EFFECTS THIS REDUCTION MAY HAVE ON LIGHT POLLUTION.

1 WHEREAS, street lighting along state and county roadways is
2 installed to suitably and safely illuminate these streets for
3 night-time driving; and

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5 WHEREAS, while serving an important and useful purpose, the
6 abundance of street lighting also has negative consequences such
7 as increased energy consumption and the production of light
8 pollution that can adversely impact native wildlife; and

9
10 WHEREAS, on the island of Oahu, it is estimated that at
11 least \$7 million per year is spent in electricity costs to light
12 our streets and that up to 40 percent of the energy used for
13 lighting in Honolulu is wasted by lighting the sky or directing
14 the light where it is not needed; and

15
16 WHEREAS, proposals have been made to change lighting
17 fixtures on Hawaii's roadways and highways in order to conserve
18 energy and resources while maintaining appropriate outdoor
19 lighting suitable for safety, utility, and security, as well as
20 protecting the environment; and

21
22 WHEREAS, these difficult economic times necessitate finding
23 ways to reduce governmental operational costs even while
24 promoting Hawaii's sustainability, and this can be accomplished
25 by reducing street lighting; and

26
27 WHEREAS, less street lighting has the added benefit of
28 reducing light pollution, thus positively impacting Hawaii's
29 natural environment; now, therefore,



H.C.R. NO. 193

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 2 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 3 of 2011, the Senate concurring, that the State Department of
 4 Transportation and Department of Transportation Services of the
 5 City and County of Honolulu are urged to collaboratively perform
 6 a cost-benefit analysis on the reduction of street lighting on
 7 Oahu and examine the effects this reduction may have on light
 8 pollution; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this analysis and examination shall
 11 include evaluation of the possible cost and energy savings that
 12 may be realized by a reduction in the number of street lights,
 13 the effects of using full-cutoff or semi-cutoff street lighting
 14 fixtures on light pollution, the possible cost savings realized
 15 by using such fixtures, and any safety and other concerns raised
 16 by reduced street lighting or the use of full-cutoff or semi-
 17 cutoff street lighting fixtures; and
 18

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Department of
 20 Transportation submit a report of findings and recommendations,
 21 including any legislation, to the Legislature no later than 20
 22 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2012; and
 23

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 25 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of
 26 Transportation and Director of the Department of Transportation
 27 Services of the City and County of Honolulu.
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OFFERED BY:

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