

FEB 23 2011

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, WITH ASSISTANCE FROM THE OAHU METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION, TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF USING KOLEKOLE PASS ROAD AS AN ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF ACCESS TO AND FROM THE LEEWARD COAST OF OAHU.

1           WHEREAS, Farrington Highway is the main route of travel  
2 through the communities of the Leeward Coast of Oahu and is the  
3 only public highway that leads into and out of the region; and  
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5           WHEREAS, in recent years, Farrington Highway has  
6 experienced lane closures or a complete shutdown on numerous  
7 occasions due to traffic accidents, severe weather, and other  
8 emergency conditions; and  
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10           WHEREAS, the Mauka Highway project was developed to plan a  
11 proposed roadway through the Waianae mountain range to connect  
12 the Leeward Coast with Central Oahu and provide an alternative  
13 means of access to and from the Leeward Coast; and  
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15           WHEREAS, while several proposed alignments for the Mauka  
16 Highway project have been considered, the project has not  
17 received funding for further development or to begin  
18 construction; and  
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20           WHEREAS, Kolekole Pass Road, a federally-owned and  
21 controlled road, passes through the Waianae mountain range and  
22 connects the Leeward Coast to Central Oahu; and  
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24           WHEREAS, Kolekole Pass Road passes through two military  
25 installations and is currently not open to civilian traffic; and  
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1           WHEREAS, the State, the United States Army, and the United  
2 States Navy have entered into a memorandum of understanding with  
3 the state Department of Defense for use of Kolekole Pass Road as  
4 an emergency evacuation route; and  
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6           WHEREAS, pursuant to that memorandum of understanding,  
7 Kolekole Pass Road has in fact, been used on several occasions  
8 as an emergency evacuation route; and  
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10           WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that there is a critical  
11 need for an alternate route to the Leeward Coast to alleviate  
12 traffic congestion and accommodate the growing population on the  
13 Leeward side of Oahu; now, therefore,  
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15           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth  
16 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, the  
17 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of  
18 Transportation, with the cooperation, support, and assistance of  
19 the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization, is requested to  
20 conduct a study on the feasibility of using Kolekole Pass Road  
21 as an alignment for the Mauka Highway project to provide an  
22 alternative means of access to and from the Leeward Coast; and  
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24           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in its study, the Department  
25 of Transportation is requested to:  
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- 27           (1) Determine the logistical challenges of opening  
28 Kolekole Pass Road to civilian traffic on a permanent  
29 basis;
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- 31           (2) Review and consider the jurisdictional issues that  
32 need to be addressed and resolved to allow the use of  
33 Kolekole Pass Road by civilians;
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- 35           (3) Determine any conditions necessitated by an agreement  
36 between the State, the United States Navy, and the  
37 United States Army for the use of Kolekole Pass Road  
38 as a highway open to civilian traffic; and  
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- 40           (4) Consider any other pertinent issues that may be  
41 involved in the use of Kolekole Pass Road as an  
42 alternative means of access to and from the Leeward  
43 Coast; and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of  
2 Transportation is requested to submit its findings and  
3 recommendations, including any recommended legislation, to the  
4 Legislature not later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
5 the Regular Session of 2012; and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
8 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of  
9 Transportation; Executive Director of the Oahu Metropolitan  
10 Planning Organization; Commander, United States Pacific Fleet;  
11 Commanding General, United States Army Pacific; and Commander,  
12 United States Pacific Command.

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OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

