HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HONOLULU AUTHORITY FOR RAPID TRANSPORTATION TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE FEASIBILITY AND COST OF CONSTRUCTING A RAPID TRANSPORTATION LINE FROM EAST KAPOLEI TO MAKAHA.

WHEREAS, commuting on the island of Oahu has become stressful and time-consuming for many residents, especially those residing along the island's Leeward Coast; and

WHEREAS, the only road connecting communities along the Leeward Coast to the H1 freeway is Hawaii Route 93, which spans from beyond Makaha on its western end to Kapolei on its eastern end, where it splits off into Kapolei and becomes Interstate H-1; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii Route 93 is currently reaching its maximum capacity during rush hour, and is pushed beyond its capacity in the unfortunate event that there is a car accident or a stalled vehicle along the highway; and

WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu has bus routes that extend to Makaha in order to alleviate traffic, but these bus routes will ultimately still be slowed down by road traffic, as they share the road with other commuters; and

WHEREAS, the construction of the Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project ends in East Kapolei, which is the western most point of the Project; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation is requested to conduct a study on the feasibility, cost, environmental impact, and public

opinion of constructing a rapid transit line, aboveground or underground, spanning from Makaha to the expected East Kapolei station; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include:

(1) A brief overview on the current traffic conditions along Hawaii Route 93;

 (2) A brief overview on the current proposals to solve the traffic situation along Hawaii Route 93 and their impacts, including, but not limited to, the construction of an access road, the expansion of bus routes along the Waianae Coast, and the widening of Hawaii Route 93;

(3) An analysis of the feasibility, cost, environmental impact, and public opinion of a rapid transit line along the Leeward Coast with stations in Makaha, Waianae, Maili, Nanakuli, and East Kapolei, either aboveground or underground;

(4) A cost-benefit analysis of constructing a rapid transit line along the Leeward Coast with stations in Makaha, Waianae, Maili, Nanakuli, and East Kapolei, either aboveground or underground;

(5) An identification and evaluation of desired, intended, and unintended effects of constructing a rapid transit line along the Leeward Coast with stations in Makaha, Waianae, Maili, Nanakuli, and East Kapolei, either aboveground or underground;

 (6) A timetable for the construction of a rapid transit line along the Leeward Coast with stations in Makaha, Waianae, Maili, Nanakuli, and East Kapolei, either aboveground or underground;

(7) A study on the impact of an underground rail project along the Leeward Coast and the disturbance of Hawaiian cultural sites, including burial sites; and

(8) Any other issues deemed necessary or relevant by the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation is requested to submit its preliminary findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than July 1, 2014, and its detailed findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than July 1, 2015; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Executive Director of the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation.

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OFFERED BY:

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