
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT INCLUDE HEALTH AS A PRIORITY IN LAND USE PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION DECISIONS.

1 WHEREAS, obesity is a major health and economic concern for
2 Hawaii and the nation, causing higher medical costs and lower
3 quality of life; and
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5 WHEREAS, in Hawaii, one in three children entering
6 kindergarten is overweight or obese and one in two adults is
7 overweight or obese; and
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9 WHEREAS, obesity-related medical expenditures in Hawaii
10 were calculated to be over \$470 million in 2009, and are
11 continuing to rise; and
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13 WHEREAS, obesity is a complex and multifaceted issue
14 requiring the collaboration of stakeholders in government, non-
15 profit, private, and health care sectors to create systematic
16 large-scale environmental changes; and
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18 WHEREAS, in the past two decades, the environments that
19 afford opportunities for physical activity have changed
20 drastically, and thus obesity prevention initiatives need to
21 focus on creating environments that provide opportunities for
22 physical activity; and
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24 WHEREAS, due to the significant effect of the built
25 environment on health and the direct effect that transportation
26 decisions have on land use and community design, Hawaii must
27 work on transforming the current transportation and land use
28 planning systems to achieve transportation and land use policies
29 that promote health; and



1 WHEREAS, all levels of government (federal, state, and
2 local) have important responsibilities in transportation and
3 land use planning. From zoning regulations to the construction
4 of transportation systems, government decisions regarding land
5 use have a significant impact on public health; and

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7 WHEREAS, public health practitioners play a critical role
8 in achieving this transformation; and

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10 WHEREAS, discussion between public health practitioners and
11 all levels of government needs to take place to ensure
12 coordination and collaboration between transportation and land
13 use planning stakeholders; now, therefore,

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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
16 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
17 Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
18 Health is requested to establish a Healthy Community Design Task
19 Force tasked with:

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21 (1) Developing legislative recommendations that include
22 improved health as a priority in land use planning and
23 transportation decisions, including, but not limited
24 to, creating policies and funding for bicycle and
25 pedestrian facilities on all appropriate streets,
26 roads, and highways statewide and adding health as a
27 consideration in land use planning policies and
28 decisions;
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30 (2) Identifying agencies with funding or regulatory
31 resources that can influence transportation and land
32 use planning;
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34 (3) Creating goals and performance metrics for outcomes
35 including, but not limited to, health and obesity;
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37 (4) Creating an action plan to achieve those metrics,
38 which addresses changes needed in laws, policies,
39 procedures, agency funding, and regulatory processes;
40 and
- 41
42 (5) Identifying synergistic initiatives and organizations
43 for successful implementation of the action plan,
44 including, but not limited to, Aging in Place,



1 reduction of Hawaii's dependence on imported fuel,
2 mitigation of Hawaii's congestion problem particularly
3 with respect to Honolulu, climate change, and safe
4 routes to school; and
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that state agencies are encouraged
7 to collaborate when developing policies that may impact the
8 environment in a manner that contributes to poor health and
9 inequities; and
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Healthy Community Design
12 Task Force include, but not be limited to:
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- 14 (1) One member of the Governor's staff, appointed by the
15 Governor;
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17 (2) One member to be appointed by the Governor from a list
18 of two names submitted by the President of the Senate;
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- 20 (3) One member to be appointed by the Governor from a list
21 of two names submitted by the Speaker of the House of
22 Representatives;
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- 24 (4) The Director of Health or Director's designee;
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26 (5) The Director of Transportation or Director's designee;
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- 28 (6) The Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural
29 Resources or Chairperson's designee;
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- 31 (7) The Superintendent of Education or Superintendent's
32 designee;
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- 34 (8) A representative from each county's Parks and
35 Recreation Department;
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- 37 (9) A representative from each county's Public Works
38 Department;
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- 40 (10) A representative from each county's Planning
41 Department;



- 1 (11) A representative from each county's Transportation
2 Department;
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- 4 (12) A representative from the University of Hawaii's
5 Department of Urban and Regional Planning or
6 Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering;
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- 8 (13) A representative from the Oahu Metropolitan Planning
9 Organization;
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- 11 (14) A representative from the Federal Highway
12 Administration; and
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- 14 (15) Three members having demonstrated interest in and
15 having backgrounds beneficial to areas such as active
16 transportation, land use planning, transportation,
17 public health, and other related areas; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
20 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
21 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than 20
22 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2015; and
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force
25 serve without compensation and receive no reimbursement for
26 expenses; and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
29 requested to assist the task force by providing a facilitator;
30 and
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force cease to exist
33 on June 30, 2015; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
36 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; the
37 Director of Health; Director of Transportation; the Chairperson
38 of the Board of Land and Natural Resources; the Superintendent
39 of Education; each county's Parks and Recreation Department,
40 Public Works Department, Transportation Department, and Planning
41 Department; the Chancellor of the University of Hawaii at Manoa;
42 the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; and the Federal
43 Highway Administration.

