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# 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

12  
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  
6

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,  
14

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:  
20

- 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;  
29
- 30 (2) Identifying agencies with funding or regulatory  
31 resources that can influence transportation and land  
32 use planning;  
33
- 34 (3) Creating goals and performance metrics for outcomes  
35 including, but not limited to, health and obesity;  
36
- 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



1 (5) Identifying synergistic initiatives and organizations  
 2 for successful implementation of the action plan  
 3 including, but not limited to, Aging in Place,  
 4 reduction of Hawaii's dependence on imported fuel,  
 5 mitigation of Hawaii's congestion problem particularly  
 6 with respect to Honolulu, climate change, and safe  
 7 routes to school; and  
 8

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that state agencies are encouraged  
 10 to collaborate when developing policies that may impact the  
 11 environment in a manner that contributes to poor health and  
 12 inequities; and  
 13

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Healthy Community Design  
 15 Task Force include, but not be limited to:  
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- 17 (1) One member of the Governor's staff, appointed by the  
 18 Governor;
- 19
- 20 (2) One member to be appointed by the Governor from a list  
 21 of two names submitted by the President of the Senate;  
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- 23 (3) One member to be appointed by the Governor from a list  
 24 of two names submitted by the Speaker of the House of  
 25 Representatives;
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- 27 (4) The Director of Health or the Director's designee;
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- 29 (5) The Director of Transportation or the Director's  
 30 designee;
- 31
- 32 (6) The Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural  
 33 Resources or the Chairperson's designee;
- 34
- 35 (7) The Superintendent of Education or the  
 36 Superintendent's designee;
- 37
- 38 (8) The Director of the Office of Planning or the  
 39 Director's designee;
- 40
- 41 (9) A representative from each county's Parks and  
 42 Recreation Department;



- 1 (10) A representative from each county's Public Works  
2 Department;
- 3
- 4 (11) A representative from each county's Planning  
5 Department;
- 6
- 7 (12) A representative from each county's Transportation  
8 Department;
- 9
- 10 (13) A representative from the University of Hawaii's  
11 Department of Urban and Regional Planning or  
12 Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering;
- 13
- 14 (14) A representative from the Oahu Metropolitan Planning  
15 Organization;
- 16
- 17 (15) A representative from the Federal Highway  
18 Administration; and
- 19
- 20 (16) Three members having demonstrated interest in and  
21 having backgrounds beneficial to areas such as active  
22 transportation, land use planning, transportation,  
23 public health, and other related areas; and  
24

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
26 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including  
27 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than 20  
28 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2015; and  
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force  
31 serve without compensation and receive no reimbursement for  
32 expenses; and  
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is  
35 requested to assist the task force by providing a facilitator;  
36 and  
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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force cease to exist  
39 on June 30, 2015; and  
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
42 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director  
43 of Health; Director of Transportation; Chairperson of the Board  
44 of Land and Natural Resources; Superintendent of Education;



1 Director of the Office of Planning; each county's Parks and  
2 Recreation Department, Public Works Department, Transportation  
3 Department, and Planning Department; Chancellor of the  
4 University of Hawaii at Manoa; Oahu Metropolitan Planning  
5 Organization; and Federal Highway Administration.

