
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO ADOPT RULES TO ENCOURAGE TAXIS TO USE HIGH EFFICIENCY VEHICLES, INCLUDING HYBRID ELECTRIC VEHICLES, AT HONOLULU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawai'i and the United States
2 Department of Energy established the Hawai'i Clean Energy
3 Initiative designed to accelerate the transformation of Hawai'i
4 into one of the world's first economies based primarily on clean
5 energy resources; and
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7 WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Clean Energy Initiative's stated goal
8 is to achieve seventy percent clean energy by 2030, with thirty
9 percent from efficiency measures, and forty percent from locally
10 generated renewable sources; and
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12 WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Clean Energy Initiative recognizes that
13 transportation accounts for more than sixty percent of the
14 energy consumed in Hawai'i; and
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16 WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Clean Energy Initiative's overall goal
17 for the transportation sector is to reduce consumption of
18 petroleum in ground transportation by seventy percent, or
19 approximately 385 million gallons per year, by 2030; and
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21 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Energy's Office of
22 Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy established and
23 administers the Honolulu Clean Cities Coalition, a non-profit
24 voluntary government and industry partnership, designed to
25 achieve a cleaner environment in Hawai'i and reduce dependence on
26 imported oil by increasing the use of alternative fuels and
27 alternative fuel vehicles; and
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29 WHEREAS, SustainableHNL is the first airport sustainability
30 initiative and pilot for the airport system sustainability
31 program of the Department of Transportation Airport Division
32 (Airport Division); and
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1 WHEREAS, SustainableHNL, in its efforts to align the
2 Airport Division's commitment to airport sustainability with
3 local initiatives and legislation, has identified four major
4 elements or areas of focus: carbon, water, waste, and energy;
5 and
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7 WHEREAS, the Airport Division recognizes that as the main
8 leaseholder, it can significantly influence users of Honolulu
9 International Airport facilities through the development of
10 sustainability initiatives and policies; and
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12 WHEREAS, the Airport Division has found that ground access
13 vehicles, including public passenger vehicles and taxis, and
14 other forms of non-renewable fossil fuel based transportation
15 that travel between Honolulu International Airport and the rest
16 of Oahu, account for approximately 18,182 million metric tons of
17 carbon dioxide equivalent (mtCO₂e), or 21.58 percent, of
18 Honolulu International Airport's total emissions of carbon; and
19

20 WHEREAS, other jurisdictions such as the City of San
21 Francisco with 1,500 taxis have similarly found that the taxi
22 industry is a major user of non-renewable fossil fuels and a
23 major emitter of carbon dioxide, emitting 75,000 mtCO₂e per
24 year; and
25

26 WHEREAS, in 1999, San Francisco initiated policies and
27 regulations, including subsidies and priority at airport taxi
28 stands, to increase the use of high efficiency vehicles by the
29 taxi industry; and
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31 WHEREAS, San Francisco has reported that as of March 2012,
32 ninety percent of its taxi fleet consisted of clean cabs
33 (eighty-five percent hybrid electric vehicles and five percent
34 compressed natural gas), resulting in an annual greenhouse gas
35 reduction of 35,000 mtCO₂e; and
36

37 WHEREAS, San Diego International Airport in 2011 launched
38 an airport clean cab program of subsidies and priority at
39 airport taxi stands that resulted in a thirty percent adoption
40 rate of hybrid electric vehicles (117 hybrid electric vehicle
41 cabs) among all cabs serving the airport in just ten months,
42 resulting in an annual greenhouse gas reduction of 2,736 mtCO₂e
43 with each hybrid electric vehicle producing sixty-two percent



1 less greenhouse gas than the typical airport taxi vehicle, a
2 2008 Ford Crown Victoria; and
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4 WHEREAS, the City of Boston in 2009, through the assistance
5 of the United States Department of Energy's Office of Energy
6 Efficiency and Renewable Energy, launched Boston's ClearAir CABS
7 program of tax credits and priority airport taxi stands to
8 incentivize the taxi industry to convert to hybrid electric
9 vehicles in clear recognition of the environmental and tourism
10 market benefits to Boston's overall economy; now, therefore,
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12 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
13 Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2013,
14 that the Department of Transportation is requested to adopt
15 rules to encourage taxis to use high efficiency vehicles,
16 including hybrid electric vehicles, at Honolulu International
17 Airport; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Airport Division, in its
20 effort to align its commitment to airport sustainability with
21 local initiatives and legislation, review the rules to encourage
22 taxi cabs servicing Honolulu International Airport to use high
23 efficiency vehicles such as hybrid electric vehicles; and
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the rules of the Department of
26 Transportation encourage the use of high efficiency vehicles for
27 taxi cabs at Honolulu International Airport through incentives
28 including, among others, the establishment of a separate taxi
29 stand for high efficiency vehicles; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
32 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director of
33 Transportation, United States Department of Energy's Office of
34 Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Honolulu Clean Cities
35 Coalition, and Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu.
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