

MAR 13 2013

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT TO
CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING AND
IMPLEMENTING A TELEWORK PROGRAM FOR STATE AGENCIES ON OAHU.

1 WHEREAS, Oahu has the largest population of all the islands
2 of Hawaii; and

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4 WHEREAS, as a result of its increasing population, the
5 traffic on Oahu's roadways is also increasing; and

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7 WHEREAS, congestion and traffic on Oahu's roadways will
8 continue to increase until there is a viable solution that is
9 financially feasible and can be completed in a timely manner;
10 and

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12 WHEREAS, the current proposed solutions for Oahu's traffic
13 issues involve construction of roadways and a rail system; and

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15 WHEREAS, these proposed solutions may take many years to
16 complete and will require billions of state dollars; and

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18 WHEREAS, there may be a simpler and less costly method to
19 reduce some of the congestion on Oahu's roadways; and

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21 WHEREAS, an alternative solution to the problem of
22 increasing traffic congestion on Oahu's roads is to create a
23 telework program for eligible state agencies; and

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25 WHEREAS, a telework program would provide a flexible work
26 arrangement under which a state employee can perform the duties
27 and responsibilities of the employee's position from an
28 authorized worksite other than the location from which the
29 employee would otherwise work; and

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31 WHEREAS, ideally, eligible state employees could use
32 broadband connections at home to perform their occupational
33 duties; and

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1 WHEREAS, common criticisms of the telework program are a
2 lack of control of the employees and possible network or
3 technical support issues; and
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5 WHEREAS, these criticisms can be addressed by providing a
6 telework site for the eligible state employees with an on-site
7 manager; and
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9 WHEREAS, a telework program would effectively decrease the
10 number of commuters on the road by permitting eligible state
11 employees to perform their occupational duties from either their
12 residence or a designated telework site that may be closer in
13 proximity to their residence than their state office location;
14 and
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16 WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed the Telework
17 Enhancement Act of 2010, which required the heads of each
18 federal executive agency to:
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- 20 (1) Establish a policy that would enable eligible
21 employees of that agency to participate in telework;
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- 23 (2) Determine the eligibility of all of the employees of
24 that agency to participate in telework; and
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- 26 (3) Notify all employees of that agency of their
27 eligibility to participate in telework; and
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29 WHEREAS, the Telework Enhancement Act of 2010 clearly
30 encourages and recognizes the importance and viability of
31 telework; and
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33 WHEREAS, this federal act provides a viable framework that
34 the State could use to establish and implement a telework
35 program for state agencies on Oahu; and
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37 WHEREAS, Hawaii has an opportunity to become an early
38 adopter of a progressive and innovative solution to roadway
39 congestion; and
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41 WHEREAS, the State already has the means and existing
42 resources that could be used for or converted as telework sites;
43 now, therefore,
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S.R. NO. 90

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013,
3 that the Department of Human Resources Development is requested
4 to conduct a study on the feasibility of establishing and
5 implementing a telework program for state agencies on Oahu; and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human
8 Resources Development establish the economic impact that
9 establishing a telework program would have on the State as a
10 whole; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human
13 Resources Development is requested to submit a report of its
14 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
15 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
16 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2014; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
19 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Mayor of the City
20 and County of Honolulu, the Director of Human Resources
21 Development, the Executive Director of the Hawaii Government
22 Employees Association, and the State Director of the United
23 Public Workers.
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OFFERED BY:

