HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO PROHIBIT HEAVY TRUCKS FROM DRIVING IN THE LEFT-MOST LANE OF AN INTERSTATE HIGHWAY EXCEPT UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

WHEREAS, the Dwight D. Eisenhower National System of Interstate and Defense Highways was initially created for the rapid movement of military personnel across the country and developed into an avenue for rapidly transporting individuals and goods between states; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii's motorists continue to seek relief from increasing traffic congestion on the State's interstate highways; and

WHEREAS, slow-moving, heavy trucks driving in the left-most lane of interstate highways contribute to traffic congestion; and

WHEREAS, a heavy truck is generally considered to be a motor vehicle having a gross vehicle weight of 10,000 pounds or more, is designated or used primarily for the carriage of property other than the personal effects of the driver or passengers, and includes a motor vehicle to which has been added a box, platform, or other equipment for such carriage; and

WHEREAS, more than 20 states have laws restricting heavy trucks from driving in the left-most lane of highways; and

WHEREAS, according to studies, restricting heavy trucks from driving in the left-most lane leads to slight improvements in traffic flow and traffic speed in certain areas, and safer highways; and

WHEREAS, a majority of case studies also show that lane restrictions reduce overall crash rates by about 10 percent,

according to a review of case studies conducted by the Louisiana State University in 2009; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, that the Department of Transportation is urged to prohibit heavy trucks from driving in the left-most lane of an interstate highway except under certain conditions, including lane closures, accidents, and emergency situations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation and the chiefs of police of the Hawaii Police Department, Honolulu Police Department, Kauai Police Department, and Maui Police Department.

OFFERED BY:

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