

FEB 27 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY
TO EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF CONTRACTING WITH COUNTY
POLICE DEPARTMENTS TO ESTABLISH HIGHWAY PATROL UNITS.

1 WHEREAS, the State builds and maintains highways that serve
2 tens of thousands of motorists each day; and

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4 WHEREAS, the effective enforcement of traffic laws is
5 critical to public safety and the prevention of accidents; and

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7 WHEREAS, the visible presence of law enforcement officers
8 can discourage speeding, reckless driving, and other traffic
9 violations; and

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11 WHEREAS, the effective enforcement of traffic laws requires
12 that traffic officers be skilled and specially trained; and

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14 WHEREAS, states such as California and Washington have
15 established state highway patrol agencies with the primary
16 responsibility for enforcing traffic laws on state highways; and

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18 WHEREAS, Hawaii is not among the states with a state
19 highway patrol agency; and

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21 WHEREAS, contracting with county police departments to
22 establish highway patrol units could potentially provide
23 significant benefits to residents, taxpayers, visitors, and the
24 law enforcement community; and

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26 WHEREAS, an objective study of potential benefits and
27 pitfalls of contracting with county police departments to
28 establish highway patrol units would help inform policy-makers;
29 now, therefore,

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31 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
32 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014,
33 that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to conduct a



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1 study to examine the feasibility of the State contracting with
2 county police departments to establish highway patrol units; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
5 Bureau is requested to consult with various stakeholders in
6 studying this issue; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
9 Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings and
10 recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days
11 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2015; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
14 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director of
15 Transportation, the mayors of each county, the chiefs of police
16 of each county, and the Director of the Legislative Reference
17 Bureau.
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