
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING AN INTRA-ISLAND WATER FERRY TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM ALONG THE LEEWARD COAST OF OAHU WITH ONE FERRY LANDING ORIGINATING FROM THE WAIANAE SMALL BOAT HARBOR.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature, in Act 221, Session Laws of
2 Hawaii 1998, authorized the Department of Transportation to
3 implement an intra-island water ferry transportation system with
4 landings at various locations along the southern coast of Oahu
5 as one method to address traffic congestion; and
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7 WHEREAS, Act 221, Session Laws of Hawaii 1998, also allowed
8 the Department of Transportation to conduct an intra-island
9 water ferry transportation system demonstration project and
10 transition this project into a permanent project as needed; and
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12 WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu initiated an
13 intra-island ferry system called TheBoat from Kalaeloa to Aloha
14 Tower in 2007, but suspended the service nearly two years later;
15 and
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17 WHEREAS, an intra-island water ferry transportation system
18 is still needed to address traffic congestion and other
19 transportation-related problems in the State, particularly for
20 areas along the leeward coast of Oahu, and with one ferry
21 landing originating from the Waianae small boat harbor, such a
22 system could potentially alleviate these congested traffic
23 conditions; and
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25 WHEREAS, the Legislature in Section 2 of Act 6, Special
26 Session Laws of Hawaii 2005, prohibited any net increase in
27 commercial vessel permits involving ocean-related activities for
28 State small boat harbors for ocean waters between Kalaeloa Point
29 and Kaena Point, so any intra-island water ferry transportation



1 system originating from the Waianae small boat harbor would
2 require an exemption from this prohibition; now, therefore,
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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
5 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
6 Session of 2016, that the Department of Transportation is
7 requested to conduct a study on the feasibility of establishing
8 an intra-island water ferry transportation system along the
9 Leeward Coast of Oahu to include:

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- 11 (1) Identifying appropriate routes and harbors for an
12 intra-island ferry transportation system on the
13 Leeward Coast of Oahu, with the possibility of one
14 ferry landing originating from the Waianae Small Boat
15 Harbor;
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 - 17 (2) Financing options for an intra-island ferry
18 transportation system, including estimates of rates or
19 fees to address operating costs;
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 - 21 (3) Determining requirements for compliance of an intra-
22 island ferry transportation system with the State's
23 environmental protection laws, including chapter 343,
24 Hawaii Revised Statutes, which determines requirements
25 for environmental impact statements;
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 - 27 (4) Consideration of the operational particulars of an
28 intra-island ferry transportation system, including
29 vessel design and speed, passenger capacity, cargo
30 capacity, automobile capacity, and compatibility with
31 harbor infrastructure; and
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 - 33 (5) The effect that an intra-island ferry transportation
34 system may have on traffic congestion for the commute
35 between the Waianae region and downtown Honolulu
36 during peak traffic periods; and
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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of
39 Transportation is requested to submit a report of its study
40 including its findings, recommendations, and any proposed



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1 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
2 to the commencement of the 2017 Regular Session; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation,
6 Administrator of Boating and Ocean Recreation, and Harbor Agent
7 of Waianae Small Boat Harbor.
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OFFERED BY: _____



MAR 11 2016

