
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO COLLABORATE WITH COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENTS TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ABOUT VEHICULAR LOLLYGAGGING AND TO ENFORCE HAWAII'S KEEP-RIGHT DRIVING LAW.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that vehicular lollygagging,
2 or the problem of slow drivers in the far-left lane of roadways,
3 creates dangerous situations, starts traffic jams, incites road
4 rage, and persists despite state law requiring drivers traveling
5 slower than the normal speed of traffic to use the right-hand
6 lane; and

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8 WHEREAS, commonly referred to as the keep-right driving
9 law, section 291C-41(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes, generally
10 requires drivers to use the right-hand lane if they are going
11 slower than the normal speed of traffic; and

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13 WHEREAS, drivers in the left lane who do not yield the way
14 to faster-moving traffic may create dangerous situations and
15 exacerbate traffic congestion by forcing faster-moving vehicles
16 to pass them from the right; and

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18 WHEREAS, Florida and Georgia have recently enacted laws to
19 address slow drivers who linger in the left-hand lane and impede
20 traffic; and

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22 WHEREAS, the legislature finds that police in several
23 states such as Washington, Texas, and Ohio issue citations to
24 slow drivers in the left lane; and

25
26 WHEREAS, slow drivers in the left-hand lane, who force
27 drivers going the normal speed to pass from the right, may cause
28 accidents because passing on the right is often unexpected for
29 other drivers, vehicles approaching from the right may be less



1 visible to a driver, and it forces accelerating vehicles into
2 slower-moving traffic; and

3
4 WHEREAS, while State law permits drivers to overtake a
5 vehicle by using the right-hand lane under specific situations,
6 such as when the vehicle overtaken is making or about to make a
7 left turn, it is in the best interest of public safety for
8 drivers to use the left-hand lane to overtake a vehicle in
9 accordance with section 291C-43, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and

10
11 WHEREAS, the goal of improving public safety on Hawaii's
12 roads is reflected in the Highway Safety Improvement Program,
13 which is a core federal aid program Hawaii participates in that
14 aims to achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities
15 and serious injuries on all public roads, and is also reflected
16 in Hawaii's keep-right driving law, which was enacted in 1971 to
17 bring Hawaii into conformance with the Federal Highway Safety
18 Program Standard on Codes and Laws; and

19
20 WHEREAS, a study commissioned by Expedia revealed that slow
21 drivers in the left-hand lane are the third-ranked reason,
22 behind texting while driving and tailgating, for road rage and
23 the aggressive driving behaviors that often result from it; and

24
25 WHEREAS, the legislature finds that traffic jams may result
26 from a small number of people driving slowly in the left-hand
27 lane with the ensuing ripple effect clogging the roadways and
28 creating crowded driving conditions; and

29
30 WHEREAS, a recent online survey by the Honolulu Star-
31 Advertiser revealed that nearly 1,000 of 1,530 respondents
32 favored a stronger law against slow drivers that are
33 lollygagging in a highway's left lane; now, therefore,

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35 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
36 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
37 Session of 2016, that the Department of Transportation is
38 requested to collaborate with the county police departments to:



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- 1 (1) Create a driver education program or public awareness
- 2 campaign regarding the problem of vehicular
- 3 lollygagging, the importance of the requirements of
- 4 drivers to move to the right when going slower than
- 5 the normal speed of traffic, and educating drivers on
- 6 the "rules of the road", specifically reminding
- 7 drivers to only pass using the left-hand lane and
- 8 drive casually in the right-hand lane;
- 9
- 10 (2) Enforce the keep-right driving law and all traffic
- 11 laws of the State that address vehicular lollygagging
- 12 by issuing warnings or citations to violators; and
- 13
- 14 (3) Submit a report of proposed activities, plans, and
- 15 recommendations regarding vehicular lollygagging and
- 16 the keep-right driving law, including any proposed
- 17 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty
- 18 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
- 19 2017; and
- 20

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of

22 Transportation is requested to install more signage displaying

23 the words, "Slower Traffic Keep Right" or similar language

24 alongside roadways that have high incidents of slow-moving

25 vehicles travelling in the left lane; and

26

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this

28 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation and

29 the police chiefs of the City and County of Honolulu, and the

30 counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui.

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OFFERED BY:

MAR 10 2016