

MAR 11 2016

SENATE CONCURRENT 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

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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



1 other drivers, vehicles approaching from the right may be less
2 visible to a driver, and it forces accelerating vehicles into
3 slower-moving traffic; and
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5 WHEREAS, while State law permits drivers to overtake a
6 vehicle by using the right-hand lane under specific situations,
7 such as when the vehicle overtaken is making or about to make a
8 left turn, it is in the best interest of public safety for
9 drivers to use the left-hand lane to overtake a vehicle in
10 accordance with section 291C-43, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
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12 WHEREAS, the goal of improving public safety on Hawaii's
13 roads is reflected in the Highway Safety Improvement Program,
14 which is a core federal aid program Hawaii participates in that
15 aims to achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities
16 and serious injuries on all public roads, and is also reflected
17 in Hawaii's keep-right driving law, which was enacted in 1971 to
18 bring Hawaii into conformance with the Federal Highway Safety
19 Program Standard on Codes and Laws; and
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21 WHEREAS, a study commissioned by Expedia revealed that slow
22 drivers in the left-hand lane are the third-ranked reason,
23 behind texting while driving and tailgating, for road rage and
24 the aggressive driving behaviors that often result from it; and
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26 WHEREAS, the legislature finds that traffic jams may result
27 from a small number of people driving slowly in the left-hand
28 lane with the ensuing ripple effect clogging the roadways and
29 creating crowded driving conditions; and
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31 WHEREAS, a recent online survey by the Honolulu Star-
32 Advertiser revealed that nearly 1,000 of 1,530 respondents
33 favored a stronger law against slow drivers that are
34 lollygagging in a highway's left lane; now, therefore,
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36 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
37 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016, the
38 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
39 Transportation is requested to collaborate with the county
40 police departments to:



- 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
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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 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of
 29 Transportation and the police chiefs of the City and County of
 30 Honolulu, and the counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui.

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 33 OFFERED BY: 


