

MAR 03 2017

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, AND HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT TO CREATE A TRAFFIC CRISIS PLANNING AND MITIGATION COORDINATING GROUP.

1 WHEREAS, it is inevitable that vehicle accidents, fallen
2 trees, water main breaks, and other unexpected events will occur
3 and impede traffic; and

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5 WHEREAS, traffic congestion can rise beyond the level of
6 minor and temporary inconvenience when traffic is brought to a
7 complete standstill and continues for hours or days; and

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9 WHEREAS, several state and county agencies are often
10 required to be included to mitigate and resolve the problem; and

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12 WHEREAS, it is evident that coordination between and among
13 the state and county agencies is initiated only after a traffic
14 emergency occurs, and often not in a very timely manner; and

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16 WHEREAS, mitigation of the worst traffic issues arising
17 from an unexpected event usually takes hours if not days; and

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19 WHEREAS, even when there is ample forewarning of traffic
20 issues for planned roadwork, traffic mitigation can take many
21 days after work begins as state and county agencies make
22 adjustments to the original traffic control plan; and

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24 WHEREAS, there seems to be no central agency that plans for
25 traffic issues and coordinates the mitigation efforts to prevent
26 and ease the worst traffic congestion and debriefs after events
27 to take away lessons learned; now, therefore,

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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
30 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, the
31 House of Representatives concurring, that the State Department



1 of Transportation, City and County of Honolulu Department of
2 Transportation Services, and Honolulu Police Department are
3 requested to create a Traffic Crisis Planning and Mitigation
4 Coordinating Group; and

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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Traffic Crisis Planning and
7 Mitigation Coordinating Group appoint a Traffic Crisis
8 Coordinator to act as the administrator of the group and who
9 will:

- 10 (1) Study the latest and the best practices in traffic
11 control and mitigation;
- 12
13 (2) Coordinate the efforts of all agencies involved during
14 a traffic emergency, as does the County of Hawaii
15 Civil Defense during a tsunami warning or an impending
16 hurricane;
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18 (3) Debrief with the Traffic Crisis Planning and
19 Mitigation Coordinating Group for lessons learned
20 after dealing with a traffic event; and
- 21
22 (4) Provide a public report to the media upon a request
23 from a state legislator or City Council member whose
24 district was affected by the traffic event; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Traffic Crisis Planning and
28 Mitigation Coordinating Group hire a traffic engineer who can
29 study the roadways and traffic lights to determine how
30 bottlenecks and choke points can be eased or avoided when a
31 traffic emergency occurs, including but not limited to the
32 following solutions: contraflow lanes, adjusting the timing of
33 traffic lights, putting specially trained police officers at
34 intersections, quickly communicating events to the public,
35 placing signage along the roadways, and training additional
36 personnel, other than Honolulu Police Department personnel, to
37 direct traffic; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Traffic Crisis Planning and
40 Mitigation Coordinating Group study areas where there are
41 minimal alternative routes, such as Farrington Highway on the
42 Leeward Coast, Kamehameha Highway on the North Shore and



1 Windward Oahu, and Kalaniana'ole Highway between Waiialae and
2 Waimanalo; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Department of
5 Transportation, City and County of Honolulu Department of
6 Transportation Services, and Honolulu Police Department submit a
7 report to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the
8 convening of each regular session detailing work conducted by
9 and any findings related to the work of the Traffic Crisis
10 Planning and Mitigation Coordinating Group; and

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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
13 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director
14 of Transportation, Director of the City and County of Honolulu
15 Department of Transportation Services, and Chief of Police of
16 the Honolulu Police Department.

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