
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO ESTABLISH BETTER SAFETY CONDITIONS AT CROSSWALKS AND REPORT ON RECOMMENDED LOCATIONS AND POTENTIAL COSTS TO IMPLEMENT PEDESTRIAN ACTUATED SAFETY SIGNALS AT MID-BLOCK CROSSINGS.

1 WHEREAS, marked crosswalks are to alert motorists of the
2 potential pedestrian crossing and define the area where
3 pedestrians have the right-of-way, as reported by the Department
4 of Transportation (DOT) in *Intersections and Crossings*, section
5 5, July 2013; and

6
7 WHEREAS, crosswalks that are not at corners of a street are
8 known as mid-block crossings by the DOT and National Highway
9 Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA); and

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11 WHEREAS, according to the NHTSA Traffic Safety Facts, over
12 75 percent of pedestrian fatalities occur at mid-block crossings
13 nationwide; and

14
15 WHEREAS, in Hawaii, DOT reports that pedestrian fatalities
16 have more than doubled from 15 pedestrian fatalities in 2017 to
17 44 pedestrian fatalities in 2018; and

18
19 WHEREAS, drivers' inattention to traffic signs, red lights,
20 and pedestrians in crosswalks caused 1,200 serious injuries and
21 44 pedestrian fatalities in 2018 and 9 pedestrian fatalities
22 through February 2019; and

23
24 WHEREAS, many incidents of fatalities and serious injuries
25 have occurred at mid-block crossings that lack signage and
26 signalization, as these crossings are not clearly visible to
27 inattentive drivers; and



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1 WHEREAS, mid-block crossings without traffic lights,
2 signage, or signalization can be improved by the implementation
3 of flashing lights, pedestrian actuated devices, or other
4 crosswalk sensors that are activated before and during
5 pedestrian crossings within the marked crosswalks; and
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7 WHEREAS, flashing lights or other pedestrian actuated
8 devices at mid-block crossings and crosswalks have the potential
9 to capture the attention of drivers, which will prevent or
10 reduce injuries and pedestrian fatalities in the State; and
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12 WHEREAS, the State's roadways need to be made safe for all
13 users, but particularly vulnerable children, those with limited
14 physical abilities, and the elderly; and
15

16 WHEREAS, further insights on the current and proposed use
17 of flashing lights or other pedestrian actuated devices at
18 crosswalks can be provided to prevent pedestrian injuries and
19 fatalities; now, therefore,
20

21 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
22 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
23 2019, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
24 Transportation is requested to convene a task force to establish
25 better safety conditions at crosswalks and report on recommended
26 locations and potential costs to implement pedestrian actuated
27 safety signals at mid-block crossings; and
28

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this task force shall consist
30 of members from the DOT, Department of Transportation Services
31 of the City and County of Honolulu, the Traffic Division of the
32 Department of Public Works of the County of Hawaii, the
33 Transportation Agency of the County of Kauai, and the Department
34 of Transportation of the County of Maui; and
35

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this task force will study and
37 report on:



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- 1 (1) All crosswalks within the State that lack
2 corresponding traffic lights, signage, or
3 signalization;
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- 5 (2) Safety regulations required by each crosswalk
6 identified in paragraph (1), such as signage
7 requirements based on daily traffic, and a detailed
8 list of requirements that are not currently met;
9
- 10 (3) Incidences of pedestrian accidents, injuries, and
11 fatalities at each of the crosswalks identified in
12 paragraph (1);
13
- 14 (4) A prioritized list of all crosswalks that require
15 further safety intervention, as determined by the task
16 force;
17
- 18 (5) A description of possible pedestrian actuated devices
19 to alert drivers of potential and in-progress
20 crossings within mid-block crosswalks, including, but
21 not limited to, flashing lights or other devices
22 activated through sensors, pressure, touch, or similar
23 mechanisms; and
24
- 25 (6) Recommended pedestrian actuated devices for each
26 location identified in paragraph (4), and estimated
27 costs and timelines needed for implementation; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all recommendations made by the
30 task force shall fall within the standards of the current
31 edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for
32 Streets and Highways; and
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
35 report its findings to the Legislature no later than 20 days
36 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2020; and



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of
 3 Transportation; the Mayors of the City and County of Honolulu,
 4 County of Hawaii, County of Maui, and County of Kauai; Director
 5 of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu;
 6 Director of Public Works of the County of Hawaii; Executive of
 7 Transportation of the County of Kauai; and Director of
 8 Transportation of the County of Maui.

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MAR 07 2019

