

MAR 06 2020

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONSIDER AS PART
OF ITS ROAD USAGE CHARGE, INCENTIVES FOR ALTERNATIVE FUEL
VEHICLES SUCH AS A DISCOUNT OR REBATE.

1 WHEREAS, the number of alternative fuel vehicles, such as
2 electric, hybrid, or hydrogen-powered vehicles continues to
3 increase in Hawaii; and
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5 WHEREAS, because of the increase in the number of
6 alternative fuel vehicles, the State has experienced a decrease
7 in revenues from taxes on gasoline; and
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9 WHEREAS, because taxes on gasoline are used to fund
10 transportation infrastructure, the increase in alternative fuel
11 vehicles has caused a decrease in funding for transportation
12 infrastructure; and
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14 WHEREAS, in response to the decrease in funding, the Hawaii
15 Department of Transportation (HDOT) is conducting the Hawaii
16 Road Usage Charge Demonstration (HiRUC), which will implement a
17 Road Usage Charge that would tax a vehicle owner based on the
18 number of miles a vehicle has been driven rather than through
19 gasoline taxes; and
20

21 WHEREAS, the HiRUC will be a three-year demonstration
22 project to allow drivers to experience paying a Road Usage
23 Charge rather than gasoline taxes and for the HDOT to receive
24 meaningful feedback on the program; and
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26 WHEREAS, drivers who purchase alternative fuel vehicles
27 often do so because they do not have to use gasoline, and
28 thereby avoid paying gasoline taxes, those drivers may oppose
29 the implementation of a Road Usage Charge; and
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31 WHEREAS, in order to reach its goal of generating one
32 hundred percent of its energy from renewable sources by the year
33 2045, the State should continue to promote and encourage the
34 adoption and widespread use of alternative fuel vehicles; and
35




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1 WHEREAS, therefore, as part of the HiRUC program, the HDOT
 2 should evaluate and consider including incentives for these
 3 types of vehicles to reduce the impact of the imposition of a
 4 new Road Usage Charge; now, therefore,
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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
 7 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the
 8 Department of Transportation consider as part of its Hawaii Road
 9 Usage Charge program, incentives for alternative fuel vehicles,
 10 which could include a discount or rebate from the Road Usage
 11 Charge that could be phased-out over a period of time; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 14 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Director of the
 15 Department of Transportation.
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 18

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